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New Jersey, Pioneer of American Industry

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In 1715 at New Barbadoes Neck—now North Arlington, New Jersey—an old slave belonging to a man named Arent Schuyler found and took to his master a heavy, greenish stone. When assayed in England, this stone proved to be a rich specimen of copper ore. According to legend, Schuyler rewarded the slave by giving him his freedom, a dressing gown with brass buttons, and all the tobacco he could smoke. Then Schuyler after further exploration sank a mine shaft at what is now North Arlington and happily dug up ton after ton of precious verdant rock. Soon the shaft was thrust so deep into the earth that the water which flooded it could no longer be pumped by hand or horse power—and I mean animal "horse" power. Operations became unprofitable. The mine shut down.

Then Schuyler's son, we are told, heard that in England the miners were using a machine called a "fire engine" to pump the water out of deep mine shafts. It was, of course, a steam engine—which in 1753 was a very new and strange invention. Schuyler ordered one through his London agent and requested

THE WRITER: Mr. Ramsey is president of the Worthington Corporation. On the following pages is the text of his address at the Society's meeting held December 10, 1953. The occasion was to commemorate Josiah Hornblower's introduction of the first steam engine in America two hundred years ago.

that an experienced engineer come to America with the engine to assemble and put it into operation.

A young man named Josiah Hornblower was picked for the job. He crossed the Atlantic with his engine in 1753, and incidentally got so seasick that he never again risked an ocean voyage.

When the engine was hauled to North Arlington, Hornblower's troubles began. There were no skilled mechanics in America. He had to assemble and install the machinery with the help of a few trained men he had brought from England. Stone for the foundation had to be quarried; clay had to be dug, moulded and burned into brick; trees had to be felled and hewn to build the engine house. It was nearly a year and a half before the engine went into operation. We are told that the delay was also caused by the fact that Hornblower fell in love with the girl next door, Mistress Elizabeth Kingsland, who lived on the plantation adjoining the Schuyler mine. Later they were married.

However, once installed, the engine was an immediate success. Operating a pump cylinder of ten inches inside diameter and actuated by a wooden pump-rod six inches square, the machine pumped 134 gallons a minute or approximately 190,000 gallons a day. Mine operations were resumed. Josiah Hornblower became superintendent, later branched out into the store business, and also operated a ferryboat line. The mine continued to produce copper ore until the early nineteenth century—thanks to the new steam engine and the pump.

In 1883, when the New Jersey Historical Society commemorated the 130th anniversary of the arrival of Hornblower and his engine, this comment was made:

> Within sight of the spot where rests this pioneer of steam-engineering in America, the forces of steam are at work in a hundred forms . . . Almost within a stone's throw of his resting place, long trains of cars dash by with the speed of the wind . . . bringing over the narrow track the wealth of the remotest parts of the globe.

We at Worthington Corporation are manufacturers of a great diversity of products today—from road-paving machines to home air-conditioning equipment—but we still produce a

great diversity of pumps and I was therefore pleased to see this further observation:

> But . . . the most important use of the subtle power in that neighborhood is the same for which his rude "fire engine" was brought over . . . namely, to pump water; only instead of lifting eighty hogsheads per minute [which turns out to be an over-enthusiastic statement—it was really eight hogsheads] these modern mighty engines, embodying all the latest improvements in science are ceaselessly, noiselessly hoisting twice that quantity out of the river, to pour it in refreshing, life-giving streams through the cities.

I might add that the direct-acting steam pump which was invented in 1840 by Henry Rossiter Worthington and which brought the world's largest hydraulic plant to Harrison in 1903, has had descendants capable of over 5,400 hogshead or more than 340,000 gallons a minute. In fact, the Tracy (California) irrigation project has Worthington pumps, six of them, each with a capacity of 345,150 gallons a minute, and 22,500-HP motors.

To me this whole story of Arent Schuyler and the first steam engine in America is more than merely interesting—it is a parable which can be told with particular appropriateness today—and especially in New Jersey, a state of the Union which is forty-fifth on the roster in point of size but sixth from the top in industrial production.

It is, in fact, a parable of our country, and as I recall the story of that first steam engine, and think of all the things that have happened and are happening in this country and this state, I am drawn to three conclusions: *First*, we must never forget that we grow as a nation and as a state by innovation—by invention—by pioneering—by creating and developing new things. *Second*, the dynamic, competitive society is the safest, whatever its risks. It is the static society that is insecure. *Third*, our state and our country are more dynamic and competitive today than at any time in their past, and this argues for a healthy, prosperous and progressive future.

May I explore those conclusions?

It seems to me that the eminence of our great state of New Jersey today is clear testimony to the fact that the world moves forward by a process of discovery and invention and it is these

things which make states and countries secure and great. Few other states of the Union—indeed few countries of the world—can boast the creation of as many new products and new industries as the state of New Jersey. That fact, more than any other, explains her economic position today, Her sons and adopted sons have been in the forefront of those who have changed forever the complexion of American industry. Let me remind you of just a few of New Jersey's industrial "firsts."

This state pioneered the motion picture industry. The first studio was located in West Orange.

The first celluloid photographic film was made in North Jersey.

The first malleable iron castings were forged in Newark.

The first submarine was assembled at Paterson.

The first American steel writing-pen was made in Camden.

The first steamboat ferry in the world operated from a New Jersey port.

The first brewery in the United States was established in Hoboken in 1642.

The first smokeless gunpowder was developed by Maxim in 1890.

Through the particular genius of Thomas A. Edison, the first phonograph was produced in New Jersey, the first carbon telephone transmitter, the first incandescent lamp, which contained a glowing loop of carbonized thread from Mrs. Edison's sewing basket.

If you calculate the magnitude of just four of the industries which had their start in New Jersey—motion pictures, frozen food, phonographs, and radio-television—you get the impressive total of nearly four billion dollars of assets.

New Jersey's leadership reaches into many fields. I think, by the way, this is inevitable. An economy that is dynamic *will* show its vigor in many fields. This state set a pattern for modern highway construction with the famous Pulaski Skyway, world's largest high-level viaduct for vehicular traffic. Today with the New Jersey Turnpike our state is still a leader in this field.

For those of you who are sports-minded, let me point out that

New Jersey's initiative included being the first to stage a sports event that brought a million-dollar gate—the Dempsey-Carpentier fight of 1921.

New Jersey can claim, too, the first industrially-planned city—planned by no less a personage than Alexander Hamilton. In 1791 he organized the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures and after careful study of the New Jersey terrain chose the falls of the Passaic River as the site of a town which he named Paterson, after the governor of New Jersey. Hamilton's scheme came to little, but Paterson thrived.

Our great manufacturing centers have made this state the workshop of the nation. We rank high among the states in employment in the chemical industry. In the rubber industry, and in the clothing and needle trades, New Jersey ranks third. We ship electrical goods and machines, food products, plastics, glass and ceramics, paper and petroleum products to all parts of the world.

We have the most concentrated railroad trackage of any state, with fourteen railroads, eight of them trunk lines.

Our industrial growth has far outstripped the nation's. Between 1939 and 1947 the nation showed a thirty-nine-percent increase in manufacturing establishments. New Jersey's increase was forty-five percent. And this does not count the recent arrival of the steel industry on the Jersey shore of the Delaware River.

To top it all, New Jersey is one of the most successful of the nation's agricultural states. Our farms, although smaller in acreage than the national average, lead the country in cash yield per acre. The average gross income per farm was $10,706 in 1950—more than double the national average of $4,728.

I don't want to underestimate any of the many forces that make a state or a nation great. It is true that New Jersey is close to major markets—but she also has helped create those markets. She has had a superior network of transportation facilities—but she also helped create the need for such facilities by her productiveness.

This state has one of the largest pools of skilled labor anywhere in the world. Large numbers of artisans who emigrated from Europe settled in New Jersey's metropolitan centers—but

one reason they came here was that New Jersey had the jobs, was creating the opportunities, was developing new industries.

The state government here supplies training facilities that are second to none in the country for the development of labor skills. This state has long recognized that scholastic-vocational training produces better-adjusted workers and a keener employee appreciation of productive teamwork. New Jersey has twenty vocational schools and it leads all other states by a big margin in expenditures per pupil. A large number of private trade and technical schools, as well as colleges and universities, augment this program. These are great and admirable contributions to the development of an outstanding state—but they are needed and have been made possible by the pioneering spirit of the state.

It seems to me impossible to believe that the economic strength of New Jersey is not a direct result of its dynamic qualities—its pioneering initiative.

I have deliberately left to the last—because I want to emphasize it—the fact that if you swing a thirty-mile arc from Perth Amboy you will count more than four hundred research and development facilities spending over 150 million dollars a year to explore the secrets of chemicals, drugs, plastics, electronics, aviation, oil, telephones, ceramics, food, hydraulics, power and scores of others. New Jersey has rightly been called "the cradle of industrial research." Two of the three greatest research organizations in the world have their home here in New Jersey—the Bell Telephone Laboratories and the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

The products born or perfected in our laboratories and workshops range all the way from synthetic vitamins, hormones, nylon, and plastics to typewriters, sewing machines, high-octane gasoline and lubricating oils. New Jersey's contribution to medicine and science has been incalculable. The life-saving antibiotic streptomycin was discovered by an adopted son of New Jersey, Dr. Selman Waksman. Our great universities and technical schools have pioneered in the study of atomic energy electronics, physics and pure science, and one university in its Institute for Advanced Study has drawn to New Jersey many of the greatest perceptive and inquiring minds of our day, including Dr. Albert Einstein.

All of this evidence seems to me to point, incontrovertibly, to my first two conclusions—that we grow as a nation and as a state by pioneering, by innovation, by creating and developing new things—and that the dynamic competitive society is the safest, economically and otherwise.

I want to come now to the third point—that our state and our nation are more dynamic and competitive today than at any time in their past and that this argues for a healthy and prosperous future.

History is not just an orderly collection of the dried bones of the dead past. It is a means for understanding the present and foreseeing the future. Thus it widens the focus of our current vision. On the basis of what we know about the present and the past, what can we anticipate in the future for Jersey and our country?

It seems to me that there is far more ground for hope and great expectations than we realize. And one of the primary reasons for hope and great expectations is the very thing for which this state is today famous—its research laboratories and its pioneering industry.

One of the members of our Board of Directors—commenting on the fact that total scientific research expenditures for the United States last year were four times the equivalent spending at the beginning of World War II—said he found it difficult to visualize a depression of any severity in the United States unless the causes for such a depression were in fact world-wide in magnitude. I agree. That's the way it seems to me.

Furthermore, I have heard it argued—very convincingly—that there is a direct relationship between research expenditures and capital expenditures for plant and equipment. Today's research leads to the discovery of those new things which demand and get production tomorrow—because they are better, more competitive, more saleable. I understand, for example, that half of the sales volume of the great duPont company today comes from products which were either unknown or did not exist in commercial quantities twenty-five years ago.

But I see something more than this—that our economy, far from becoming less competitive basically (as some critics of big business continually argue) is becoming fundamentally more

competitive. Probably no other force contributes to this result more than research and innovation. No product is secure in its market unless it is fighting continually to provide a better service at a more favorable price. It is difficult for any economy to settle down into despondency when it is being constantly stimulated by such new developments as television, air conditioning, frozen foods, and a great variety of products, processes and services which create demand.

The new industries force the old ones to fresh bursts of constructive energy. They are under new pressure to keep their prices down and to add to their values.

I know of no company that is big enough to feel it can ignore competition or the demands and interests of the consumer even briefly. As a matter of fact, it seems to me that the companies that are largest are most active in the search for better things at better prices. The scramble for consumer confidence in this country was never greater, it seems to me, than today.

It is the confidence I place in these dynamic competitive forces which leads me to the conclusion that the future of this state is notably bright. Nowhere will you find more vigor in the pioneering sense.

But I believe that we can look to the future of our country with great confidence, too. Lifted up by a rising tide of population, large private resources, and a population that is in a constant state of productive change, as new and better products, services and processes are developed and adopted, I feel that we have little to fear in a world which is at peace.

So, I come back to the event that we are commemorating—the two-hundredth anniversary of the first steam engine in America—and as I recall the story of that pioneering effort, I see in it a pattern of New Jersey and America, a rapidly-accelerating, never-ceasing, pioneering effort. It is, as I say, a parable to me. It reminds us what made this state and this country great economically, politically, industrially, and socially.

And when I follow the thread of the story down to the present I am well aware that New Jersey knows what made it great—and America knows that lesson too. The future looks bright to me so long as we do not forget the lesson of the North Arlington steam engine.

"The World Was All Before Me"

James Herring, Village Schoolmaster of 1810

CHARLES E. BAKER

Too little is known of elementary education in New Jersey before the legislature in 1829 belatedly passed the state's first comprehensive school law, entitled "An Act to Establish Common Schools." Not till 1820 had the townships been authorized to raise money by local taxation for the education of the children of their poor or until 1828 to erect and repair schoolhouses. Even then a stigma of pauperism attached to the classrooms so authorized and few townships proved eager to exercise this new privilege of taxing themselves for education. True, a permanent school fund of fifteen thousand dollars created by the legislature of 1817 had increased during the next dozen years (particularly under a statutory provision of 1824 that one-tenth of all state taxes be reserved for it) to a total of $245,000, but as yet not one cent of that fund had been spent to foster education.

At long last the school law of 1829 "provided for an annual appropriation from the income of the school fund, to be divided among the counties and townships in proportion to the taxes they paid." The first such appropriation reached a niggardly twenty thousand dollars, or an average of roughly one thousand to a county—not enough in itself to effect much change for the better. Indeed, "Non-attendance at school and illiteracy were on the increase." The common school law did, however, provide for the machinery of a workable school system and by mid-century most New Jersey children could expect regular teaching in established classrooms. Under the state school laws, periodic inspections and relatively systematic records and reports were required, but for the long period before 1829 his-

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torians of elementary education in New Jersey have had to depend upon conjecture and the few scattered records or meager accounts which lie hidden in county archives, local histories, or obscure memoirs.[1]

A newly discovered manuscript narrative of a village schoolmaster's experiences during this Dark Age of New Jersey's educational history, even though concerned with the remotest northwest corner of the state, therefore assumes an importance which it might otherwise not have. Such is James Herring's account of his schoolteaching in the township of Wantage, Sussex County, in 1810, which is printed here.

Before the common school law became operative, the education of children in New Jersey was, to say the least, haphazard. "The people, left to themselves, did the best they could towards sustaining schools in their respective neighborhoods." "Clergymen frequently engaged in school-teaching" but their efforts were mainly given "to higher education for the few, rather than to schools for the primary instruction of the masses."[2]

The first historian of education in New Jersey had little to say of the early common schools beyond drawing an *a priori* conclusion that, "As the early settlers were mostly men of intelligence and enterprise, it may be presumed that they had schools for the education of their children wherever settlements were sufficiently advanced." Of the school at Hackettstown, organized in 1797 and "probably the oldest within the bounds" of that part of Sussex County which in 1824 became Warren County, he said: "This, like all the early schools, was a subscription school. The parents who desired to send their children, subscribed for them and paid quarterly. The terms were about $5 a quarter, and if they were taught unusual subjects the rate was still higher."[3] What the master taught was determined by his own inclinations and capabilities—or lack of them. A New Jersey State Committee on Education reported in 1828 that

[1]David Murray, *History of Education in New Jersey* (Washington, 1899); Francis B. Lee, *New Jersey as a Colony and as a State* (New York, 1902), IV, 292-93; Nelson R. Burr, *Education in New Jersey, 1630-1871* (Princeton, N.J., 1942), pp., 246-51; Ira T. Chapman, in William Starr Myers, *The Story of New Jersey* (New York, 1945), I, 443-48.

[2]James P. Snell, *History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey* (Philadelphia, 1881) pp. 168-71.

[3]Murray, *op. cit.*, pp. 94, 97.

"every schoolmaster . . . is left to pursue his own course of instruction, without responsibility, amenable to no tribunal, and subject to no inspection or supervision."[4]

This statement and the erratic qualifications of the early teachers may be illustrated from a firsthand description of elementary instruction at Stillwater in Sussex County during the years 1791-98. It shows that each year brought a new master—itinerant misfits, partially educated immigrants, or unrehabilitated Revolutionary veterans, most of them inebriates whose principal qualification for teaching was their lack of qualification for anything else. The Rev. Casper Schaeffer, who had been a Stillwater student at this period, wrote:

> The old school house in which I received the first elements of my English education . . . was situated . . . close under the hill where the lime-stone rocks jut out furthest. The teachers were numerous in a long succession of years. First of all was Paddy MacElvany, fresh from the green Shamrock. He gloried in teaching children to read hard names, together with the Children's and Westminister Shorter Catechism. In consequence of his too great liking for the *ardent*, his right hand refused its cunning, and he resorted to the use of copper-plates to teach his pupils chirography. The next was Hubbard, an old Revolutionary soldier from New England. He was given to inebriation also. The next was Crosby, from the isle of Erin. He was generally sober, but never refused good cheer when offered gratuitously. Next came one by the name of Hand—not remarkable for any great deeds. To him succeeded Boulton, a great arithmetician, but addicted to long-continued sprees. He as well as the following, whose name I do not recollect, were both from the Emerald Isle; the last, as well as the preceding, delighted to suck the liquid poison. The next was Mr. Graham, a gentlemanly man who also came from Ireland . . . Next came Dillingham, a Revolutionary soldier; was in the battle of Monmouth under Washington. After him succeeded Coffee, an Irish stolling play actor, who taught us something of the art of speaking dialogues, etc., and gave us a taste for theatricals. After this I tended mill [the Schaeffer grist mill at Stillwater] for five years; then in May, 1803, went to grammar school at Baskingridge, under the tuition of the late Dr. Finley . . .[5]

A conclusion that "The early schools in Sussex County were

[4]Myers, *op. cit.*, I, 450.

[5]Casper Schaeffer, *Memoirs and Reminiscences, together with Sketches of the Early History of Sussex County*, compiled by William M. Johnson (Hackensack, N.J., 1907), pp. 69-70. The Rev. Casper Schaeffer was born at Stillwater, N.J., 1784, and died in 1857, having completed his reminiscences in 1855. *Ibid.*, pp. 20-21. From the above it will be evident that he started school in his sixth or seventh year and continued his quarterly attendance for eight years.

of the most primitive character"[6] is hardly surprising. The most northwesterly of New Jersey counties, Sussex County was erected by the General Assembly on June 8, 1753. And in May of the following year the most northwesterly—and the largest—of its townships was created and given the name of Wantage. It is with one of the early schools of this township that our village schoolmaster, James Herring, was concerned. Though one authority has said that "No school of any note had been sustained in the township until 1833," and another has regretted that "Little information is obtainable regarding the earliest schools opened in the township"—that, indeed, "comparatively little was done at an early day to foster education," a third historian reports a tradition that there were "three schools in Wantage prior to 1770."[7] However that may be, there is little reason to doubt the assertion that such schools as existed in Wantage during the eighteenth century were "kept in log school-houses erected . . . by a few scattered settlers who felt the necessity of giving their children some instruction in the simple rudiments of reading, writing, and arithmetic. A quarter's schooling of this sort was all that could be afforded during the year, and this usually occupied the winter months, when the children's time at home was least valuable."[8]

Of one of those schools, which was built near present Deckertown "on lands of Capt. Abraham Shiner, in Wantage . . . just prior to or during the Revolution," we have a vivid description by B. A. Westbrook, who had been one of the pupils in attendance there:

> It stood at the foot of a ledge of rocks at the head of the captain's mill-pond, on ground at present owned by his great-grandson, Jacob [E. (?)] Hornbeck. It was in size sixteen by sixteen feet, and built of logs, with plank floor, one story high, with one course of boards for floor, and the cracks battened with slabs from the captain's saw-mill hard by; the oval side was turned to the weather. In one end inside the room was an open fireplace, with chimney laid through the roof and built of sticks and clay. The school-room was entered by the old-style double door,

[6]Murray, *op. cit.*, p. 94; Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 168.

[7]Edward A. Webb, *The Historical Directory of Sussex County, N.J.* (1872), pp. 60-61; Snell, *op. cit.*, pp. 17, 149, 292; Francis J. Swayze, "Historical Sketch of Sussex County, New Jersey," in Jacob L. Bunnell, ed., *Sussex County Sesqui-Centennial, September 2, 1903* (Newton, N.J., 1903), pp. 51, 110.

[8]Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 168.

divided horizontally in the middle and opened with a latch and string. There was no ceiling overhead, and the boys sat on slab benches that surrounded the centre of the room and formed a hollow square. A rude desk used for writing, etc., faced the wall in front of the window,—which, by the way, was the only window in the room, and only three panes of glass, placed abreast in it,—the use of which seemed to be for the "master" alone, as he occupied it almost exclusively. During pleasant weather the upper door was allowed to stand open, in order to benefit from the light thus afforded, or, more likely, so that the boys could see what was passing out of doors.[9]

Not until 1804 did the inhabitants of Wantage Township undertake to build a schoolhouse "more pretentious in its construction." In that year the farmers and tradesmen in the vicinity of the village of Clove (called by Herring the village of Wantage), desiring improved facilities for educating their children, incorporated "the Unity Company . . . to build the Unity school house, at the high point in the township of Wantage." It was to this "neat frame schoolhouse" that a sixteen-year-old runaway boy, miscalling himself Freer lest an irate father find and bring him home, was appointed master in March, 1810.[10]

Luckily, schoolmaster Freer (whose real name was James Herring) has left a revealing account of his teaching days in Wantage—one which adds considerably to our meager knowledge of what elementary education was like and how it was fostered in the state of New Jersey a century and a half ago. Luckily, too, he has left an account of his own schooling in England compared with which the New Jersey schools of that day, bad as they were, seem not inferior. From Herring's account we also learn of the books he read, of his subsequent instruction in New York and Brooklyn, and gain a fairly good idea of what his qualifications for teaching were. Young as he was, he appears to have been superior to the earlier Sussex County schoolmasters of whom we have knowledge.

James Herring was born in London, January 12, 1794. His father, James Herring, Sr., though a tradesman, tallow chandler, and later a brewer, was a man of culture, occasionally a teacher,

[9]B. A. Westbrook, quoted from "Centennial Report on Schools of Sussex," in Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 168.

[10]Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 292; Swayze, *op. cit.*, p. 51; autobiography of James Herring, MS., New-York Historical Society.

founder and master of his own school, and genuinely concerned that his son should have a sound education. In the younger Herring's unpublished autobiography he describes his early education in part as follows:

When I was about 5 years of age I was able to read a little and was sent to school on Paul Street [London] . . . I could read tolerably well, as I used to read *Bell's Weekly Messenger* . . . [In 1802] I was sent to school at the village of Micham, or Mitchem, not far from London . . . where I saw the odious and shameful practice of horseing the oldest scholars, and punishing them in the presence of all the scholars—by spanking on the bare flesh with a sort of bat while the victim was uncovered on the back of an older or stronger lad, or young man, for failing in reciting his lesson, or "task" . . . [The following year] we removed into Hampshire, to a village of Bently Green, about 42 miles S.W. of London, on the road to Southampton . . . The schoolmaster was such nominally only, as the scholars were employed only in knitting woolen gloves for the army. This did not fit my father's ideas of a school, so he established a free school for the children selected from the peasant families of the village, and for such of their parents also as desired to learn to read and write in the evening . . .

[The current ideas generated by the French Revolution] were not without especial interest in our own family . . . The French had learned their lessons in America, and American books and pictures were especially attractive to me. At one of the print sellers . . . was one [of] "The Pirate Paul Jones shooting Lieutenant Grubb for attempting to strike the colors of an engagement." Two others, in mezzotint; one in the back woods of America with a family defending their Log-house against an attack by Indians; and a companion to it, with the same family surrounded by all the evidences of tranquility and prosperity . . .

Among my father's books there were several on Heraldry . . . A copy of Howard's Encyclopaedia in 3 folio volumes with numerous plates, and another folio on Natural History, also well illustrated . . . All these had great attraction for me . . . In the Encyclopaedia was an engraving of the flag of the United States of America, which I recognized in a moment when I saw it for the first time floating in the air, over the stern of a ship, at a wharf on the Thames . . .

In 1805 Herring's maternal uncle, Stephen Holland, "went to the United States and set himself down in the City of New York; and afterwards," said Herring, "wrote such glowing accounts of the Land of Freedom, that my father very soon decided to go and see it for himself." So it was that on October 2, 1805, eleven-year-old James Herring landed with his parents

in New York City. They moved at once to Greenwich Village to avoid the yellow fever then rampant in the city, and the elder Herring began reviewing the prospects for making a living and providing for his son's education. The lower schools at that period in New York were on pretty much the same footing as those in New Jersey. A contemporary survey stated:

> There are Charity Schools attached to many of the churches in the city, where children of the poor members receive instruction and clothing gratis . . . There is a free-school for black children, established by the Friends . . .
>
> Besides the charity-schools, there are a number of respectable private schools, where instruction may be obtained at a reasonable price; many of the teachers are men of learning: but the private schools in general, are not under so good regulations as in Connecticut, and the other New England States.[11]

Considering this situation, the elder Herring decided there was room for a really good school which would require little capital beyond what he carried in his own head. To this end, on the then-customary moving day, May 1, 1806, he rented "the first house east of 3rd Street (now Eldridge Street), in Rivington Street," where he established a business academy and set up his wife as the mistress of a primary school. In his unpublished autobiography, James Herring records that his father

> had a large signboard made, to suit the breadth of the building; the house was white, the sign was white, and father painted upon it in black letter, "*Commercial Academy*" . . . Scholars filled the school room upstairs. Mother took all the little ones downstairs, and if any of them fell asleep, she would get a pillow and let them sleep snugly in some quiet corner. Father's scholars were ladies and gentlemen, some to study bookkeeping, writing, etc. Wednesday and Saturday were half-holidays. These were also busy days for him, as he had an engagement as writing master in a Young Ladies boarding school, somewhere up the Bowery, which occupied those days . . .
>
> In the spring of 1807, my father had made up his mind to remain permanently in the United States, closed his school [for a short trip to England to settle his affairs there], but my mother still kept her own together.[12] He consulted the President of Columbia College, how to

[11]Longworth's *New York City Directory*, 1805-06, p. 76. In the same directory (pp. 162-63) are listed 105 "Teachers" and (p. 166) two "Librarians."

[12]*Ibid.*, 1806-07 and 1807-08, lists James Herring [Sr.] as "teacher Rivington near Third."

dispose of me, and was advised to place me in the Academy at Flatbush, where the Rev. Dr. Cooper, a favorite pupil of his own and a graduate of the college, was the chief Tutor.[13] A fine collection of astronomical and other philosophical instruments, board and lodging in the house, etc. So I was placed there, and there remained until father returned from England in the fall, just in time to witness the examination of the pupils. The examinations occupied the entire day. The evening was devoted to public speaking, by the male pupils, and unexpectedly to myself, I had the honor to deliver the final oration . . . A stage had been erected in the school room; the young lady scholars were seated in front, on the left; the males on the right. The oration was a very long one, from (I believe) the "Columbian Orator" . . . but I had committed it perfectly to memory . . . [Having finished] I bowed and retired, and was applauded long and loudly . . .

My father gave me the choice, during the vacation at Flatbush, to return there, to enter Columbia College, or go into some business establishment as a clerk. I chose the latter . . .

This decision Herring later regretted, for he found no further opportunity to obtain a higher formal education, but this deficiency he supplied in part by the reading of books. The job he took was with "Messrs. [Claudius G.] Fontaine and [George] Ferris, importers, S.E. corner of Walter & Pugster Sts." At about the same time (1808), Herring subscribed at six cents a week to a circulating library in Water Street, near Broad. Of the influence of this library upon his education he reported:

I . . . read with a voracious appetite. Up to this time I had never read but one Novel and that was the "Three Spaniards," which belonged to the Kennys at Flatbush . . . I sought for other works of a similar character, and read the "Monk" by Lewis; the *Romance of the Pyrannes*, and every other work of that class I could find. Some of these fastened themselves so firmly in my memory, that I remember I recited the whole of the "Monk" to a party in Easton, Pennsylvania in 1819, and it occupied the night and was finished after day-break in the morning . . .

In 1809 his father bought ground on 3rd (now Eldridge) Street behind his Rivington Street dwelling, on which he erected a brewery for the production of what he hoped and intended to be superior ale. Young Herring then entered his father's office.

[13]Reverend Joab Cooper, author of "*Cooper's Virgil*, so well known as a text book in the schools and colleges," was principal in 1806-08 of Erasmus Hall Academy, founded 1786, incorporated 1787, which became one of the foremost educational institutions of Brooklyn.—Henry R. Stiles, *History of Kings County*, I, 250.

JAMES HERRING, 1794-1867

A copy by E. Whiston, made about 1908 from the original portrait by Frederick William Herring (1821-1869), his son. The copy and the original both hang in Masonic Hall, New York City.

The business prospered greatly, but Herring did not like it. "Toward the close of this year (1809)," he wrote, ". . . the last Saturday of the year, a very extraordinary and unexpected circumstance occurred, which separated me from the family for nearly a year." The two-hundred-gallon copper boiler full of hops mash, which young Herring was assigned to stir, boiled over and his angry father threatened to horsewhip him. To avoid the whipping Herring ran away, spent the night with one of his father's customers, "and early on Sunday morning crossed the North River, at the foot of Courtland Street, and marched up the hill to Jersey City."

This runaway boy, whose 16th birthday would come a fortnight later (January 12, 1810), assumed the pseudonym of Freer to symbolize to himself his new-found independence as well as to cover his traces from a hounding father, and feeling "like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes he star'd at the Pacific," started his trek toward a new year, a new life, and New Jersey's farthest corner, where he would soon be master of the Unity School of Wantage, Sussex County. It was this experience which he recounted a half century later in his still-unpublished autobiography, as follows:

"The world was all before me, where to choose."

Half an hour afterward [*i.e.*, after reaching Jersey City on his flight from home], a country wagon, and four Jersey Farmers overtook me. They were walking very fast to keep themselves warm, for it was a bitter cold morning. They were from Sussex County, the North Western of the State, and they were all neighbors when at home, and lived under the Shelter of a mountain ridge, running on the eastern side of the Delaware River.[14] They had clubbed together to carry a load of poultry to New York for the holy days, and had succeeded in selling at good prices, before Christmas; and buying what each wanted, and could obtain cheaper in New York than in their neighborhood. The owner of the wagon charged me two dollars to ride there, which I paid him, but the others called it a shame, and he returned me $1. for I walked with them.

[14]The Kittatinny or Blue Mountains.—Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 287. "The surface of this valley is uneven, covered with several ridges of low hills, running north and south, with bottoms of considerable width, in which is land of great fertility. Along these valleys run two small streams, tributaries of the Wallkill. The natural scenery of this region is rarely surpassed."—Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 60.

I remember the name of one village through which we passed, on that Sunday afternoon. "*Sparta Post Office.*"[15]

The name of the *township* to which we were bound was "Wantage,"[16] and the *village* in which the tradesmen and storekeepers were congregated bore the same name.[17] There was also a quiet Tavern, a Saddler, a general Store-keeper, a Hatter and a *neat frame schoolhouse*,[18] the whole occupying with their gardens, about half a mile on both sides of the road. It was a neat, pretty place, and all the people sociable and orderly.—Sol. Smith, the Saddler, who would get tipsey occasionally, but very rarely, and was than good natured and kept himself at home; would hardly make an exception.

It was some time after dark when the party with whom I had journeyed to Wantage, separated, and each took a different route to his own house. Two of them were cousins, named Robert and Russell Compton;[19] the name of the owner of the wagon and horses, and of the fourth, I have forgotten.[20] Robert took me to his residence, about half a mile in the woods, where we saw a light in the window of four small panes of glass, of a 1½ story log house, and his wife up waiting for her husband. The first thing I was requested to do after breakfast [on New Year's Day 1810] was to go out to the wood pile and cut some wood for the fire with an axe. I went of course, but as I had

[15]The village of Sparta in Sussex County was settled about 1770 "on the highest land in the State." A hundred years later it was still a small village with a population of only 300.—*Ibid.*, p. 50. "The first returns from the postmaster at Sparta were made January 1, 1798, but . . . there may have been an office here at an earlier date."—Theodore F. Chambers, *Proceedings of the Centennial Anniversary of the Presbyterian Church at Sparta, N.J., November 23, 1886, together with a History of the Village* (New York, 1887), p. 96.

[16]"Heckewelder . . . says that Wantage is a corruption of the Indian word *Wundachqui*, signifying 'that way.' "—Snell, *op. cit.*, p. 24. But on page 32 of *The Origin of New Jersey Place Names* (Trenton, N.J., 1945) the derivation of the name Wantage for the township in Sussex County is given as Wantage, England. In 1810, when Herring lived there, the population of the entire township—the largest in the county—was only 2,969, the population of Sussex County then being 25,549.—Census Bureau, New Jersey Department of State, *Compendium of Censuses, 1726-1905* (Trenton, N.J., 1906), p. 38.

[17]Although Herring thought he remembered that this village, like the township, was called Wantage, contemporary records as well as local historians give the village as Clove. (See notes 19 and 24 below.)

[18]This was the "Union" or "Unity School House," the only frame schoolhouse in the township, built by the Unity Company incorporated in 1804 for that purpose. (See note 10 above and the text to which it pertains.)

[19]The earliest known record of Comptons in Sussex County is a 1787 petition of "the inhabitants of Clove and its vicinity" for permission to organize a Dutch Reformed Church there, signed (among others) by David and Jacob Compton and Bowdewine Decker, the Wantage storekeeper who befriended Herring. This church merged in 1818 with the First Presbytrian Church of Wantage.—Snell, *op. cit.*, pp. 288-89, 297-98.

[20]"The early settlers of Wantage are of a mixed origin, some of German and others of New England parentage, besides Huguenots, or French Protestants."—Webb, *op. cit.*, pp. 60-61.

never seen a log of wood cut by anything but a saw, I could only hack it. Mr. Compton who had been observing me, came out and told me very kindly, to leave that log and go into the field and cut some brush wood. I did so, and while very busy, Mr. Compton and his father came out to see how I got on. The result was that the old gentleman soon discovered that I was better qualified to teach than to cut wood,[21] and he offered to receive me in his own family as a Teacher.—And when Spring opened, if I gave him satisfaction, he would introduce me to all his neighbors who had children, and have me installed as *Master in the frame schoolhouse* in Wantage. I was pleased with the proposition. So when he sent some of his family and an extra horse for me, I removed to his house.—Mr. Compton's family I found, was an amalgamation of two families, his own, and his wife's, amounting to nine or ten altogether. Two sons were married and had little farms of their own; and there was one little girl, not old enough to be taught anything.

Here, then, I was installed as Schoolmaster until March 1810.

My greatest trouble here, was want of clothes; but I managed to get along somehow; although I cannot now, after the lapse of 57 years, give any very intelligible account of the how, but suppose I must have been indebted to the uniform kindness of Mr. Compton's family. My scholars improved rapidly, and all were satisfied. During winter the young men were engaged in cutting wood, and dragging it home on the snow and ice, and I soon became as expert at that exercise as any of them. At other times they were busy threshing in the barn, or taking care of their horses, etc.

On one occasion I proposed to give a lecture to the family and their near neighbors on Astronomy; using one side of the sitting room for a drawing of my orrery, which I made of charcoal.[22] I had a full house that night, and received great applause, and gave much satisfaction.

We then invented a debating Society, to be held once a week among the nearest residents. The first discussion was on the question "Which is most profitable to a farmer, Sheep or Bees?" I contended for the Bees, and wrote my argument, but did not use my paper. There was little discussion after that, and the decision was in favor of the Bees.

As Spring approached the whole family were occupied in preparations for its peculiar duties, and were very busy about the farm, repairing fences, harnesses, etc. etc.

[21] This recalls the dictum of William James that "Those who can, do; those who can't, teach." Although many of the early New Jersey schoolmasters seem to have entered their profession in accordance with this rule (see note 5 above, and the text to which it pertains), James Herring, despite his youth, gives evidence of having been reasonably well prepared, by the standards of his day, for the career of teacher.

[22] It will be remembered that Erasmus Hall Academy in Flatbush (now Brooklyn) which Herring had attended in 1807 had impressed him with its "fine collection of Astronomical and other philosophical instruments." (See note 13 above and the text to which it pertains.)

Mr. Compton now advised me to prepare an agreement to be offered to all residents in and around the village of Wantage; this I executed in my best style, at so much a quarter for each scholar,[23] and my board in each family for an appropriate time. We then set out on our visit to each, which occupied the whole day. In a few days afterward I took possession of the School-House and started on my new track. I soon became popular, and found myself very comfortable, only I wanted some money. However, I surmounted that difficulty, by my credit. The storekeeper[24] and the tailor were willing to wait, so was the hatter and the shoemaker; and I felt very much at home.

Then I though often of my dear, good, kind *Mother*, and how glad she would be to hear of her only child. The Post Office at Sparta had not been forgotten, and someone I knew to be going through that little town, I wrote to her, and directed my letter to the grocer, Aaron Palmer, who lived opposite to our house, in Rivington Street.[25]—I knew it would be safe in his hands, and so it was, for he put it into her own hand, as I afterward heard. But I gave no intimation *where I was myself*, and there was no Post Office in Wantage at that time.

At the end of my three months engagement, I wanted to see my Mother; as there were several about to visit New York, I collected my salary, so far as I could conveniently, and joined the party. There was no public conveyances established in that part of Sussex County at that period, and we started on foot for Paulus Hook (now Jersey City) stopping by the way to get something to eat and drink, and then march on our journey. The distance from Wantage to Jersey City, at that time was about 70 miles, but new roads since opened, have shortened the distance very considerably, and I think it now about 60.[26]

[23]In such subscription schools as Herring's (and there were no others), "The terms were about $5 a quarter" per pupil.—Murray, *op. cit.*, p. 97.

[24]Bowdewine Decker (1763-1857), the storekeeper, was the son of Josiah Decker who ran the grist mill at Clove (Wantage) and the grandson of Peter Decker, the first white man in Wantage, who had settled about 1740 where Deckertown now is. Bowdewine Decker "grew up on his father's farm, his schooling advantages being but meagre in those days. He was a great reader, however, and a teacher in one of the early district schools of his locality . . . For many years he kept a store near his residence, where he carried on mercantile pursuits . . . His wife [m. 1787] was a daughter of Richard Westbrook, of Wantage."—Snell, *op. cit.*, pp. 305-06. Storekeeper Decker was therefore probably the brother-in-law of the B. A. Westbrook whose description of the log schoolhouse in Wantage is quoted above (see note 9 and the text to which it pertains).

[25]At this time—or at least only two years earlier (1808)—it cost a shilling (twenty five cents?) to post a letter between Sparta and New York.—Chambers, *op. cit.*, p. 96.

[26]In 1810, when Herring passed though it, Bergen (as the township was called until its incorporation as Jersey City in 1820) could boast a population of only 2,690. —*Compendium of Censuses, 1726-1905*, p. 12. Present-day road maps show the distance from the village of Wantage to Jersey City as *c.* 60 miles. To walk that distance in one day, as Herring and his companions did, was a feat of endurance but not an impossibility as the present author can testify from personal achievement.

We arrived in New York, at the foot of Courtland Street, where the party put up at a public house, but I hired a horse at a Livery Stable, and rode directly home to ascertain how the land lay there. The weather was very warm, the windows and the entry door were open, and from behind that door were uncle Stephen's[27] legs. I called out loudly, "Uncle"! He started and responded "Jim"! He came to the side of my horse, shook hands, and told me to take my horse round to the stable. After I had tied him, and given him some hay, I went into the Brewery, which Mother had just entered across the yard from the house and had not heard of my arrival. I ran up to kiss her, but she pushed me away, not recognizing me till I called her Mother! and the mother was there in a moment, and replied My Son! and fell into my arms.

Father soon followed, sent I suppose by Uncle Stephen, but he exhibited no symptoms of pleasure at seeing me, but wanted me to acknowledge I had done wrong in leaving him; when however, I told him I was going back to New Jersey in a few days to continue my school, collect the balance due me and pay all my debts there, he would not listen to it, but said he would pay all my debts, and as I had to take the horse back to the livery stable, he went with me, and my country friends being located close by, we found them altogether, and he told them so. That was the first they ever heard of his existence. I had never spoken of him, but only of my *Mother,* and my own name was *Freer.* The store-keeper I had spoken of at Wantage, had a brother Dr. Decker, living a few miles from the village, and he came to the house a few weeks afterwards, and collected the little amount I owed in that vicinity.

Probably the boys and girls of the village of Clove and its vicinity in the township of Wantage, Sussex County, N.J., whom an enthusiastic young schoolmaster named "Freer" had taught readin,' writin,' 'rithmatic, and such awesome subjects as astronomy, during the winter and spring of 1810, never learned that master Freer, under his rightful name of James Herring, became an eminent portrait painter whose activities exerted a profound influence on the development of American art, and officer (in the 1820's and '30s) of the venerable American Academy of the Fine Arts, the founder and proprietor of a circulating library of 10,000 volumes—"the Enterprise Library" (*c.* 1830-1840) in New York, the author and publisher (with J. B. Longacre) of a "very valuable work . . . honorable to our

[27]Stephen Holland, the brother of Herring's mother, having arrived in New York from England in 1805, established himself as a gardener in Rivington Street. It was for that reason that James Herring, Sr., moved his family there, into a house near Holland's, which accounts for "Uncle Stephen" being on hand to greet the returned schoolmaster.—Herring's autobiography, MS., New-York Historical Society.

country"—*The National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans* (four volumes, 1834-39), the founder and proprietor of the Apollo Gallery in New York (1838), the father and first corresponding secretary of the important and influential American Art-Union (1839-51), an exhibitor at the National Academy of Design (1826-55), at the Boston Athenaeum (1838), at the Apollo Association (1839-40), at the Pennsylvania Academy (1862-69), and elsewhere, and the grand secretary of the [Masonic] Grand Lodge of New York (1828-59).[28] But, as we shall soon see, he became well known as a Mason and as an artist elsewhere in New Jersey.

Back home from his Wantage schoolteaching, Herring became a clerk in the office of his father's New York brewery, with a distillery now added, and prepared to spend the rest of his life directing and reaping the profits of his father's business. "But not only the establishment itself had undergone a change," wrote Herring, but "the whole neighborhood had been filled up with strangers." One of these—the teen-age daughter of Ephraim Goldin—took Herring's fancy, and in 1812, when he was but 18 years of age, he married her. For two years all went well and in 1813 he established a distillery of his own near his father's brewery. Then disaster struck: both businesses failed "in consequence of circumstances connected with our second war with England," and shortly thereafter his father died, leaving him "without property or profession, and with a wife" to support. But during his boyhood in England his father had taught him to draw from life; the boy had also "travelled around [London] to visit the picture shops, book stores, caricatures and print sellers, the Royal Exchange, where were statues . . . [and to the places where] numerous

[28]A. Everett Peterson in *Dictionary of American Biography*, VIII, 590-91; Thomas S. Cummings, *Historical Annals of the National Academy of Design* (New York, 1865), pp. 147-48; William Dunlap, *History of the Rise and Progress of the Arts of Design in the United States* (New York, 1834), II, 296-99; Cowdrey, *National Academy of Design Exhibition Record 1826-1860* (New York, 1943), I, 223-24; Swan; *The Athenaeum Gallery, 1827-1873,* p. 237: Theodore Sizer, "The American Academy of the Fine Arts," and Charles E. Baker, "The American Art-Union," in Mary Bartlett Cowdrey, *The American Academy of Fine Arts and the American Art Union, 1816-1852* (New York, 1953); Charles T. McClenachan, *History of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons in New York* (New York, 1891-94), II, 600.

picturesque signs were displayed by shipping merchants and tradesmen. These daily visits afforded numerous studies for imitation at home." He even used, he said, "pretty pastry flowers" and colored Christmas cakes "for studies in drawing; of course they were but childish efforts." Nevertheless this early training had given him the rudiments and an inclination for a career as artist, "and he now thought of painting as the means of present subsistence and future prosperity."[29]

His beginnings in this field were modest enough but his advancement was rapid. He began by coloring maps for a New York publisher who soon fled from his creditors to Philadelphia, without having paid Herring for his work. Herring followed, collected part of the money due him, obtained similar employment with Mathew Carey, the Philadelphia map publisher, and sent for his wife who combined her labors with his to color some seven hundred maps a week at three dollars per hundred. "His attention was called to drawing, at this time, by an application for a profile. This led to making profiles and colouring them. He then attempted a delineation of the whole face . . ."[30]

This first attempt at portraiture by the twenty-one-year-old future artist not only decided him in his career but sent him back for instruction to New York where the foremost painter of his day and place—John Wesley Jarvis—was busy executing his "hero portraits" for the City Hall. At about this time (1815) Jarvis had begun also scraping mezzotints of War of 1812 subjects to cash in on an avid market and hired young Herring to color the prints for him. In Jarvis' studio Herring found a precocious apprentice named Henry Inman, who, in his famous days, recounted how "Another of [Jarvis'] students and myself were set down before a small tinted landscape, with instructions to copy it," and how the master had humiliated them for their initial results. There is nothing to indicate that Herring either was or was not that student, but it can hardly be doubted that

[29]MS. autobiography (NYHS); Dunlap, *op. cit.*, II, 296-97; *D.A.B.*; Longworth's *N.Y.C. Directories*, 1812-14 (the 1815 directory lists neither James Herring, senior or junior).

[30]Dunlap, *op. cit.*, II, 297. Dunlap's chronology is uncertain and seems to be slightly confused. But the episode recounted above must have occurred in late 1814 or early 1815, for Herring is listed in the New York directories through 1814 and again for two years beginning 1816.

"This intelligent and very enterprising gentleman," as Dunlap characterized Herring, took full advantage of his connection as print-colorist to Jarvis-the-engraver in order to learn all he could from Jarvis-the-portrait-painter.[31] By the spring of 1816, at twenty-two years of age, he felt competent to set up a studio of his own.

Remembering the pleasures of his earlier success as a New Jersey village schoolmaster, Herring chose that state as the locale of his new profession. He moved to Bound Brook in Somerset County where he found immediate welcome both as an artist and as a member of the community. On June 16, 1816, he was initiated into the Somerset (Solomon's) Lodge, No. 1, of Free and Accepted Masons, and when his name was entered on its roll he was set down as "James Herring, portrait painter." His initiation took place "in . . . Somerville, N. J.; and, once a member of the Fraternity, he soon made his influence felt."[32] Although his fraternal ties helped to bring him commissions, it was by the excellence of his work that "he succeeded in gaining employment in that State as a portrait painter in water colours, and finally in oil. From New Brunswick to Easton he was *the* portrait painter." And as his reputation increased, "he . . . was employed throughout northern New Jersey."[33]

Although Herring had tried to maintain a supplementary studio at 446 Greenwich Street in New York City during the first two years of his New Jersey residence,[34] it was the success of his New Jersey portraiture during the years 1816-21 which finally brought him to the attention of a New York patron who

[31]Harold E. Dickson, *John Wesley Jarvis: American Painter, 1780-1840, with a Checklist of His Works* (New York, 1949), pp. 79-80, 162, 167-69; Dunlap, *op. cit.*, II, 296-97.

[32]Rev. T. E. Davis, "Roll of Somerset (Solomon's) Lodge, No. 1, F. and A. M., 1787-1829," in *Somerset County Historical Quarterly*, July 1919, p. 167; McClenachan, *op. cit.*, II, 601 and 603, where it is stated that "In 1821, he delivered an oration at Flemington, N.J." In 1838, after he became Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, Herring, "who had previously been a resident of Bound Brook, New Jersey, recommended to that Grand Lodge the systematic exchange of Grand Representatives between the Grand Lodges"—which recommendation was adopted.—David McGregor, *History of Freemasonry in New Jersey* (1938), p. 121.

[33]Dunlap, *op. cit.*, II, 297; *D.A.B.*

[34]George L. McKay, *A Register of Artists, Engravers, Booksellers, Printers & Publishers in New York City, 1633-1820* (New York, 1942); Longworth's *N.Y.C. Directories* for 1816-17 and 1817-18. Herring's names does not reappear in the New York directories until 1822.

"invited him thither to paint some members of his family. This succeeded, he had more applicants, removed his family to the great metropolis [in 1822] and in a short time was an established portrait painter in the Bowery, near the spot at which he commenced life in the brew-house and distillery of his father."[35]

In 1841, having already reached the pinnacle of his fame, James Herring established his home in Brooklyn, where thirty-four years earlier he had completed his formal education at Erasmus Hall Academy. There he lived during the next quarter century, though he continued throughout most of that period to maintain his studio in New York City.[36] His daughter Ann, who went to live in Paris, France, and his son Frederick William (1821-1899), whom he had trained to be a portrait painter, urged their father for their sakes to write his autobiography. So it was that he set down at the top of page one of a blank folio volume: "Brooklyn, N.Y. March 13, 1863," and began the history of his life. Two years later he had hardly progressed beyond an account of his ancestry and infancy when ill health caused him to close his home and go to Paris to live with his daughter. There he carried the story of his life up to the meeting with his wife-to-be, and wrote no more. On October 8, 1867, he died "at his daughter's residence in Paris, after a long and painful illness of disease of the heart." His body was brought home and buried with Masonic rites in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn.[37]

The unfinished autobiography descended through Herring's artist-son to his great-grandson, Mr. George T. Mortimer, Jr., who presented it in 1952 through Mrs. Helen Adams, Herring's great-granddaughter, to the New-York Historical Society. Although the manuscript unfortunately ends before its author had begun to tell of the career that made him famous, without it we should never have known the story of schoolmaster "Freer" at the village of Clove, township of Wantage, county of Sussex, in the year of our Lord 1810.

[35]Dunlap, *op. cit.*, II, 297-98; *N.Y.C. Directories* for 1822 and following.

[36]Lain's *Brooklyn, N.Y., Directory*, 1841-2 through 1865-66; and New York City directories for the same period, *passim*.

[37]MS. autobiography (NYHS); obituary, *New York Daily Tribune*, October 23, 1867; information from Mrs. Helen Adams of New York, his great-granddaughter.

The Old School House in Mount Holly

LOUISE BIRD RALSTON

On the "Twenty-first day of September in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred and Fifty nine," a small plot of ground about fifty by ninety feet, "Lying and being on the North Side of New Street in Bridgetown in Northampton," was deeded to certain citizens "for School Land."

Thus begins the history of the Old School House in Mount Holly, which in June, 1951, was accepted from the Female Benevolent Association of that town by the New Jersey Society of the Colonial Dames of America, and is now in the process of restoration.[1] The schoolhouse is a little one-room building (about twenty-four by twenty feet), painted yellow, over typical South Jersey brick work of Flemish bond with dark headers and red stretchers; its simple interior made inviting by an arched ceiling. It sits flush with the brick sidewalk of Brainerd Street, once New Street, now ancient and narrow; and school children still run past it every day as they go to two public schools beyond.

Small as it is, the Old School House in Mount Holly is important for many reasons. It is the oldest schoolhouse in Burlington County and probably in New Jersey.[2] Certainly it is the earliest one in the state still standing on its original site. It is important because in the eighteenth century, when classes for children were few and casual and usually held in private homes. either in the schoolmaster's or the house of some leading citizen, this land was bought and this building was erected solely for school purposes. It is important because it is extremely well documented: it has belonged to only three groups in 195 years and there is proof of each transfer of ownership. It is important because, while the name of John Brainerd was long but mis-

[1]Mrs. Harold B. Sutphin of Trenton, chairman; Henry Petty of Moorestown, architect. A simple old-fashioned garden is being laid out at the rear of the schoolhouse lot, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. M. Sherred.

[2]George De Cou, *The Historic Rancocas*, p. 117.

takenly associated with it, the man who taught classes there in the 1760's was far more probably another great Jerseyman, the Quaker abolitionist John Woolman.

The original deed was drawn September 21, 1759,[3] John Brock, miller, being the grantor. The five grantees—Henry Paxson, Esq., John Munrow, Alexander Ross, John Clark, and John Hatkinson, "Yeomans"—the deed recites,

> together with Divers Others of the Inhabitants of Mount Holly aforesaid did enter into a Certain Article of Agreement Dated the Twenty-Sixth day of June last past [and were] Appointed Trustees by the said Subscribers to the said Article to Purchase a Lot of Ground and take a Deed for the Same . . . for the particular use and purposes mentioned in the above recited Article.

This article of agreement of June 26, 1759, has not come to light, but a note on the left-hand margin of the deed in which it is mentioned makes clear what the use and purposes were: "For School Land."

A yellowed paper dated March 14, 1815,[4] is proof of the second period of ownership, and also establishes the name by which the building is properly called. This paper is a deed of gift from "the owners and proprietors of the Old School House in Mount Holly" to the Female Benevolent Association:

> Whereas it is proposed by the Female Benevolent Society of Mount Holly to cause to be taught in a public School all the poor Children of Mount Holly and its Vicinity gratis—and it being desirable that so laudable a design may be promoted, we the undersigned who claim to be Owners and proprietors of the Old School House in Mount Holly do hereby agree that the Association afrsd shall and may occupy the said Old School House in Mount Holly afrsd fore the purposes aforesaid. Given under our hands this 14th March 1815.
>
> Samuel J. Reed
> Charles Hughes
> Saml Clark
> Jos. Hatkinson
> Alexr Shiras (for and in behalf of one share held by his father and one by the estate of John Clark)
> Martha Ridgway (in behalf of her father's share Henry Paxson Esq.)

[3]It was not recorded until after four years, February 21, 1764. Deed Liber I, page 179, Secretary of State's office, Trenton.

[4]Given to the Colonial Dames by Miss Mary Budd, long treasurer of the Female Benevolent Association of Mount Holly.

Elizabeth Shinn (in behalf of her father Earl Shinn's share)
Jane Cox, surviving heir to Doctr Alexr Ross
Mahlon Budd
Joseph Bennett

Public schools, or public education as we know it, did not come into being in New Jersey until the middle of the nineteenth century. Parents expected to pay for the schooling of their children, and except under noteworthy circumstances the children of the poor went untaught. Thus, our schoolhouse, under the Female Benevolent Association, was remarkable for giving free education to poor children. Its title, the "Free School House" (used in two deeds of 1842 and 1843),[5] not only distinguished it from other schools of the time, such as the Friends School and the Academy,[6] but denoted also a change in practice. In the early period of its history, as we shall see, the schoolmaster's salary was not paid by school trustees, who then billed the parent; rather, the schoolmaster by custom billed the parent *directly* for "schooling thy child."

The third and final deed to the Old School House, by which it was transferred from the Female Benevolent Association to the New Jersey Society of Colonial Dames, was recorded "at 9:25 o'clock in the forenoon on the 28th day of June 1951."[7] This modern deed, after a description of the tiny plot on Brainerd Street, states that the property is the same which was granted March 14, 1815, to the Female Benevolent Association by "the owners and proprietors of said premises then known as the Old School House in Mount Holly" and that the Female Benevolent Association "claims title thereto by possession for upwards of sixty years last past."[8] So the documentation of the schoolhouse is complete.

The Society of Colonial Dames has received several valuable

[5]Belonging to the Methodist Church: deeds of September 26, 1842, Presbyterian trustees to George H. Brown; and March 27, 1843, trustees of the First Presbyterian Church to trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

[6]Woodward and Hageman, *History of Burlington and Mercer Counties*, p. 187.

[7]Burlington County Deeds, Book 1109, folio 4.

[8]"Upwards of sixty years" works out to 136 years and three months, a goodly period of ownership by the Female Benevolent Association. This devoted group of women still continues its quiet good works in Mount Holly and still preserves its earliest minute books and treasurer's accounts.

documents through the generosity of the present officers of the Female Benevolent Association. One of these is a list of twenty-one men, who, on November 13, 1765, subscribed a total of £9 10/6 "to be aplid towards Purchasing a Cain Stove for the School hous and what ever Repairs is needfull to be don to sd hous." The men contributed seven shillings and six pence for each share they held, and the number of shares belonging to every man follows his name. There were twenty-five shares in all.

The "Cain stove"[9] is interesting. Even more so are the twenty-one men who subscribed to buy it: Henry Paxson, John Hatkinson, John Clark, Alexander Ross, John Bispham, *two shares each*; John Monrow, *one-and-a-half shares*; Josiah White, John Clafton, Thomas Shinn, Daniell Jones, Ebenezer Doughty,[10] Samuel Clark, Aron Smith, Earl Shinn, Zachariah Rossell, Joseph McCullah, Aquillah Shinn, and John Budd, *one share each*; John Forker, James McIlhigo and Adam Forker, *one-half share each*. There must have been, and perhaps somewhere still is,[11] an original document of the agreement entered into on June 26, 1759, when twenty-one citizens of Mount Holly subscribed to twenty-five shares of a fund to buy land and build a schoolhouse for the education of youth.

[9]Mrs. Joseph L. Bodine, a member of the School House Committee, recognized on reading this document that the "Cain Stove" was an early five- or six-plate stove resembling a rectangular metal box, of the type described by Dr. Henry C. Mercer of Doylestown, Pa., in his *Bible in Iron*. The name "Cain Stove" came from cast-iron side plates which picture the slaying of Abel by Cain. Mrs. Bodine further found that there was such a Cain stove-plate in the Pennsylvania Museum of Art; and she obtained it for the schoolhouse on indefinite loan, through the courtesy of Fiske Kimball, director of the Museum. When the restoration of the Old School House is completed, it is the hope of the Colonial Dames to exhibit this early Cain stove-plate in such a plate stove, the other plates of which will unfortunately have to be reproductions.

[10]The Cain stove document states further that Ebenezer Doughty's share was sold to Thos. Powell. We wonder if this is the same Thomas Powell who as master of the Boarding School at Burlington, advertised in 1763 for a "Sober Single Man, qualified to teach the Latin Language"; and who later the same year gave notice that girls also could be boarded by the wife of his Latin and French master. The boarders, he added, "will have an Opportunity of speaking the French tongue in the House." *N.J. Archives*, First Series, XXIV, 122, 167.

[11]The late George De Cou, historian of Burlington County, had been unable to locate it, according to a statement in his *Historical Sketches of Mount Holly and Vicinity* (1936).

Who were these forward-looking men who were willing to put up their money to provide the town with a school? And later to add seven shillings and sixpence for each share they held to heat the school and repair it?

As one would expect, they were some of the substantial men of Mount Holly. Their names appear frequently in the public notices and advertisements in Philadelphia newspapers of the time.[12] A few of our twenty-one men had mention only for letters unclaimed at the Philadelphia or Trenton post office. John Atkinson (Hatkinson) advertised a "runaway Negro man named Sandy" in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of October 2, 1755.[13] Others like John Clark acted as agents to show a "Dwelling house and Plantation for sale."[14]

At least two of the twenty-one, Henry Paxson and John Munrow, held offices in the colony.[15] Others were grand jurors —on July 31, 1764, John Hatkinson, Daniell Jones, John Bispham, John Forker, James M'Elhago (McIligo), and Acquillah Shinn, were so listed.[16]

Deeds of the period show that several were executors of estates. One or two were agents for lotteries. Lotteries, although even then slightly controversial,[17] were not at all shady business in the eighteenth century. They were popular and legitimate means of supporting such institutions as St. Mary's Church at Burlington and Princeton College. The local agent for a lottery was a man of standing.

In the affairs of Mount Holly, our twenty-one men appear among the founders of St. Andrews Church in 1742;[18] and as organizers of the Britannia Fire Company in 1752. Fourteen of them were charter members of the Mount Holly Library Company in 1765.[19]

Alexander Ross was the local physician, who "rode an old

[12]New Jersey had no newspaper until the *New Jersey Gazette* was started at Burlington in December, 1777.

[13]*New Jersey Archives*, First Series, XIX, 539.

[14]*Ibid.*, p. 460.

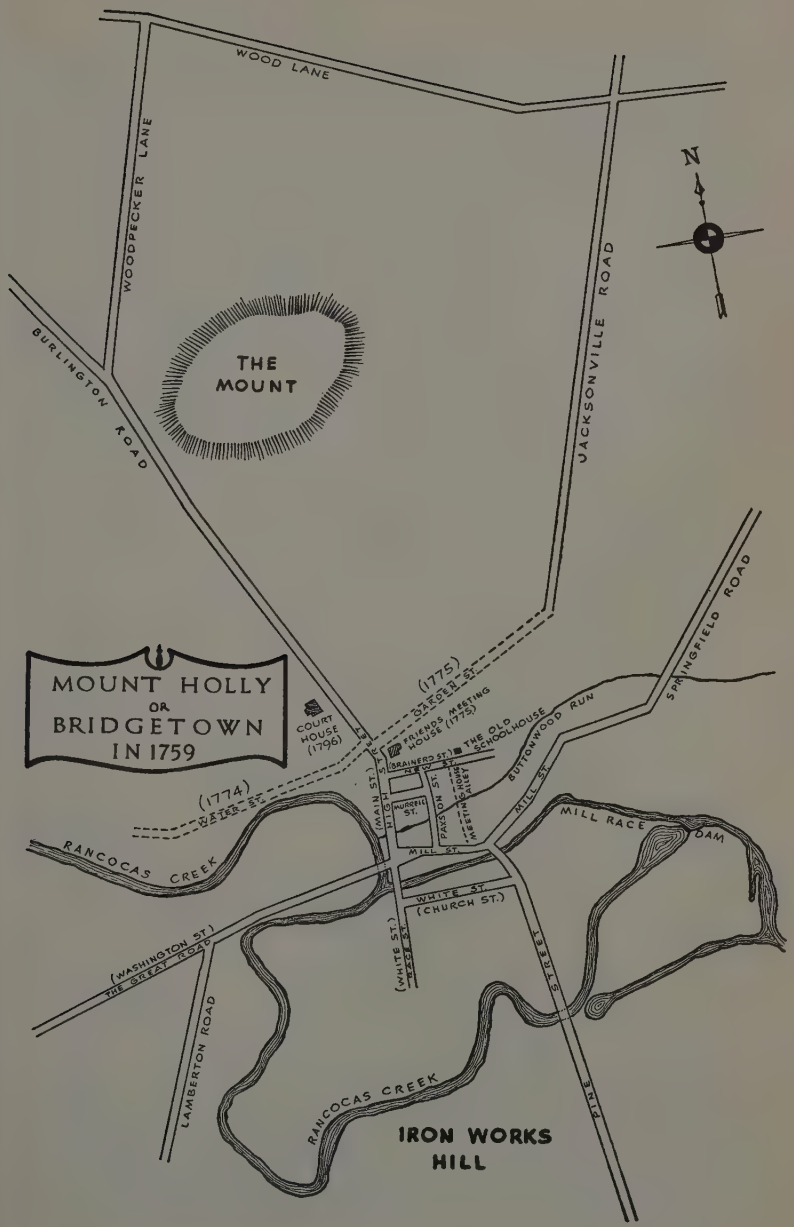
[15]*Ibid.*, XVII, 274, 455.

[16]Burlington County General Quarter Sessions records, Mount Holly courthouse.

[17]*New Jersey Archives*, XX, 320.

[18]De Cou, *The Historic Rancocas*, p. 102.

[19]Woodward and Hageman, *History of Burlington and Mercer Counties*, p. 203.


WOOD LANE
WOODPECKER LANE
BURLINGTON ROAD
THE MOUNT
JACKSONVILLE ROAD
N
MOUNT HOLLY OR BRIDGETOWN IN 1759
COURT HOUSE (1796)
(1775)
(1774)
MAIN ST.
HIGH ST.
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE (1775)
THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE
GRAINGER ST.
PARSON ST.
MORRIS ST.
WILLIAMSTOWN TURNPIKE
BUTTONWOOD RUN
SPRINGFIELD ROAD
MILL ST.
MILL RACE
DAM
RANCOCAS CREEK
WHITE ST.
(CHURCH ST.)
(WASHINGTON ST.)
THE GREAT ROAD
(WHITE ST.)
LAMBERTON ROAD
RANCOCAS CREEK
IRON WORKS HILL
PINE STREET

black mare, his saddle bags stuffed with medicines."[20] A graduate of the University of Edinburgh, he was one of the famous early medical men of South Jersey. His son, Dr. John Ross, of distinguished Revolutionary service, who later married John Brainerd's daughter Mary, was a boy of seven, ready for schooling, when the Old School House was built in 1759.

Five of the subscribers to the school fund were tavern-keepers. Tavern-keepers were respected and influential men in the colonies, when inns had the only rooms large enough for general gathering places and were truly community centers. These five innkeepers were: Thomas Shinn, of "The Cross Keys"[21]; John Hatkinson, of the Hatkinson Tavern[22]; John Forker,[23] who in 1764 was "licensed to keep a Public House at the place where he now lives in Mount Holly"; Zachariah Rossell, of "The Black Horse"; and Daniell Jones, of "The Three Tuns," now the Mill Street Hotel (still standing).[24]

Daniell Jones would naturally have a concern for education. He was the brother of Rebecca Jones[25] of Philadelphia, the well-known Quaker schoolmistress, always a friend and fellow worker of John Woolman. Jones was likewise a near neighbor of Woolman on Mill Street in Mount Holly.

In the Woolman manuscripts, at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, we find constant mention of many of the "founding fathers" of the Old School House. Woolman has in the index pages of his Ledger B the names of Adam Forker, John Forker, John Hatkinson, Aron Smith, Earl Shinn, Acquillah Shinn, Thomas Shinn, Dr. Ross, Zachariah Rossell, and Josiah White; and perhaps others. Probably all of our twenty-one, in a town no larger than Mount Holly, were friends and customers of John Woolman. Many of them did work or sold

[20]*Ibid.*, p. 202.

[21]Josiah H. Shinn, *History of the Shinn Family in Europe and America*, p. 83.

[22]John Woolman, Ledger B (manuscript in Historical Society of Pennsylvania), date of 1763, 11 mo. 24. Page is headed: "John Hatkinson, Innk^r."

[23]General Quarter Sessions records, 1764-1787.

[24]De Cou, *op. cit.*, pp. 135, 136.

[25]John Woolman, *Journal and Essays* (New York, 1922), edited by Amelia Mott Gummere, pp. 100, 544. This "Rancocas Edition" of Woolman's writings with its valuable biographical notes, is the source of much information on people in Mount Holly of the time in which we are interested. So also is *John Woolman, American Quaker* (New York, 1942), by Janet Whitney.

The Old School House in Mount Holly, built in 1759 or 1760

goods to him also, having both "Dr." and "Cr." listings in his accounts, where goods and services were balanced off, one man against another. As Mrs. Whitney says, "Very little money changed hands."

Thus, we have an account with Earl Shinn.

da	*mo*		*S*	*d*
25	4 1769	To Schooling thy Child	7	6
		To measuring 2 lots of rie at *1s 6d* per lott	—	—
3	4 mo.	Contra do. By horse to Burlington	1	9
		" " " Mansfield	1	9
7	8 mo.	" " " Burlington	1	6
25	12 mo.	" a fat goose	2	10

So seven shillings sixpence was balanced against six shillings fourteen pence; the Woolmans had a fat goose on Christmas Day; and Earl Shinn's child was under the tuition of a teacher of children who cared not only "to bring them forward in outward Learning, but to open their Understandings with respect to the true Christian Life."[26]

Adam Forker made an hour-glass and did the glazing in the house Woolman built in 1771.[27] An entry shows that Woolman "removed to Asher Woolman's to live the first day of the twelfth month 1763 & left household goods with several neighbors . . . Left with Josiah White one kegg of cider, one pair of great Steelyards & three new remnants of Cloath."[28] In a list of "Books Lent" (Woolman had an excellent library for the times), we find the names of John Hatkinson, John Bispham, and Josiah White among the borrowers.[29]

John Woolman was of course, even in 1759, far more than a tradesman of Mount Holly. He was a tailor and tradesman by choice, because as he says,

> a way of life pretty free from much entanglements appeared best for me, tho' the income was small. . . There was a care on my mind so to pass my time, as to things outward, that nothing might hinder me from the most steady attention to the voice of the True Shepherd.[29a]

[26]"On Schools." Woolman, *op. cit.*, p. 391.
[27]Woolman, *op. cit.*, p. 106.
[28]Woolman Accounts, Ledger B, p. 240.
[29]*Ibid.*, p. 219.
[29a]Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 164.

By 1760, he had given up his shop, to do tailoring at home and manage his farm and orchard on the Springfield Road. Woolman was by now foremost among the Quakers of Mount Holly and presiding clerk of the Burlington[30] Monthly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. He was well up in Friends' councils in Philadelphia; and, from his religious journeys to the South and New England and his constant preaching against slavery, becoming a spiritual leader throughout the colonies. But Mount Holly was home and the Mount Holly Quakers, not yet set off from Burlington Monthly Meeting, were his immediate circle.

On a page of Woolman's ledger, where another item is dated 8th 11 mo., 1755, Woolman has written: "Friends Names of Mount Holly Meeting." We find in his list the familiar names of Henry Paxson, John Hatkinson, Josiah White, and Aron Smith. During a serious illness of Woolman six Friends were "Desired to meet at the house of John Woolman at 10: o'clock."[31] Three of them were men connected with the Old School House—Henry Paxson, Josiah White, and John Bispham. Josiah White had been recorded a Quaker preacher on the same day in 1743 that John Woolman was.

The Shinns were a Quaker family also, and the elder Thomas is mentioned in Thomas Chalkley's journal, 1737: "From Burlington I went to Mount Holly, had a large meeting at the Meeting House and another in the evening at Mount-Holly town at the house of Thomas Shinn."[32] So we may assume that the three brothers, Thomas, Earl, and Aquillah Shinn, sons of Thomas the Quaker, were close friends of Woolman in the meeting.

There were only two churches in Mount Holly in 1759, the Friends Meeting House on Wood Lane, and St. Andrews Episcopal Church, built in 1742 on Iron Works Hill. The "Little Meeting House" on Meeting House Alley, behind the Mill Street house and "framed shop" which John Woolman sold to his mother in 1753, was not built until 1763. Designated "a hand-

[30] *Ibid.*, p. 45; Whitney, *op. cit.*, p. 219.
[31] Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 113.
[32] De Cou, *op. cit.*, p. 64.

some church" by the Rev. Colin Campbell of St. Mary's, Burlington, St. Andrews was at first a mission built by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts under St. Mary's. Of its founders, four are men whose name are among our twenty-one: John Budd, John Clark, Daniell Jones (the tavern-keeper), and John Munrow, Esq.[33] All of which helps to prove that the men who built the Old School House were the leading citizens of Mount Holly.

Some of them were men of property. John Bispham had inherited wealth from his father, had married wealth and social standing in the person of Margaret Reynolds, daughter of Patrick Reynolds, a landed proprietor, who had a fine house and was the son of the Lord Mayor of Dublin. Josiah White had been a prosperous landowner of Salem County and when he removed to Mount Holly was the owner of a fulling mill and cloth factory.[34]

Of them all, perhaps the two most prominent were John Munrow and Henry Paxson, whose position in life is attested by their title of Esquire, and by the fact that their names always come first on schoolhouse documents. Both of them had positions in the colony as well as in the town. John Munrow was later a Judge of the Quorum, of the Commission of the Peace, by appointment of August 21, 1767.[35]

In each listing of the trustees or shareholders of the Old School House, the first name is that of Henry Paxson, Esq. Paxson was prominent in local affairs and also well known in the Province. He was a native not of Mount Holly, but of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.[36] He seems to have married into Mount Holly, however, for his wife was Martha Shinn, sister of Thomas, Earl, and Acquillah, the three Shinn brothers who were shareholders.

Friends records show that on the 5th of 2 mo., 1742, Henry

[33] *Ibid.*, p. 102.

[34] *Ibid.*, p. 530.

[35] *N.J. Archives*, First Series, XVII, 455.

[36] According to Quaker records, he was the son of William and Mary Paxson, born "14th of 7mo 1719 old stile" and "Departed this Life the 18th day of 9mo 1778 and his wife Martha Departed this Life the 23rd of 2mo 1781." Mount Holly Births, Burials, and Marriage Certificates, 1753, p. 3 (Friends Records, 304 Arch Street, Philadelphia).

Paxson and wife Martha were condemned by the meeting for marrying contrary to discipline.[37] Just what Quaker rule of marriage procedure they broke we do not know, but it must have been a minor one.[38] Henry Paxson was clearly held in high esteem by his father-in-law, Thomas Shinn, since he was named with John Woolman to be executor of the elder Shinn's will written in 1751.

Besides being a local business man (he owned a tannery on Buttonwood Run, on the east side of Paxson Street), Paxson held many appointive and elective offices. In 1754 he was chosen a member of the Assembly from Burlington County, and had in all three terms there: 1754-61; 1769-72, and 1772-1775, when he served in the last Royal Assembly.[39]

In the Assembly, Paxson was not a dead-weight legislator. His name appears frequently in the journal of the Governor and Council. He was often named to wait upon the Governor, or upon the Council, with messages from the Assembly. In March. 1758, Paxson was one of a committee appointed to make plans for the erection of five barracks,[40] to house the British troops. here to fight in the French and Indian War, and previously quartered upon unwilling townsmen.

Paxson was made justice of the peace for Burlington County on December 12, 1761; and reappointed on August 21, 1767, by the same act which made John Munrow a Judge of the Quorum. Paxson's name appears as judge of the General Quarter Sessions in sittings of the Court from 1764 to 1773; and appears also as a judge of Common Pleas, 1767-76.

In deeds and records of Mount Holly, we find Paxson's

[37]W. W. Hinshaw, *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, II, 248.

[38]*New Jersey Archives*, First Series, XXXIV, 381.

[39]The last Assembly was dissolved in December, 1775, by Governor William Franklin, when it became evident that its power and duties had completely slipped away to the revolutionary Provincial Congress, by then in full control and nearly ready to declare itself, as it did on July 2, 1776, the Convention of the State of New Jersey. *Ibid.*, XIX, 392.

[40]Gertrude S. Bodine, "The Old Barracks, New Jersey," in National Society of Colonial Dames, *Some Historic Houses* (1939), p. 43; Alden T. Cottrell, *The Old Barracks at Trenton* (1952), p. 6. The barracks built in Elizabethtown, Perth Amboy, New Brunswick, and Burlington are no more. In the only one remaining, the Old Barracks at Trenton, hangs appropriately Paxson's portrait, over the mantel in the Sons of the Revolution room, to which society it was bequeathed by the late Chancellor Edwin R. Walker, his descendant.

name again and again. He was sheriff of Burlington County.[41] As foreman of the Grand Jury at Burlington on Nov. 10, 1764, he gave a brief address of welcome to a newly appointed chief justice, Frederick Smyth, who returned thanks for greetings "from gentlemen *so deservedly respectable* in this county."[42] Certainly Henry Paxson was "deservedly respectable" in the town and county where he lived.

Before the Old School House was established by Henry Paxson and his twenty fellow-townsmen, there had been attempts at education in Mount Holly. Elizabeth Sampson Ashbridge, the Quaker preacher, whose third husband was Aaron Ashbridge, a well-to-do Friend of Chester County, Pennsylvania, wrote of her own stormy life. Her second husband, a rootless man and a drunkard,

> next removed [before 1770] to Mount Holly where we settled. We had each of us a good school and soon got our house pretty well furnished, for poor folks, and might have done very well. Nothing seemed wanting to complete my happiness except the reformation of my husband, which I had much reason to doubt I should not see soon.[43]

An often-quoted advertisement from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of November 2, 1749, suggests another attempt at a school for the town:

> Any school master or mistress that shall come well recommended to be of sober behavior and can spell well, and write a good common hand, may find encouragement for the keeping of a school by applying to William Foster, near Mount Holly in West Jersey.[44]

Perhaps William Foster remembered the far-from-sober behaviour of Elizabeth Ashbridge's second husband. Both these quotations bear out the impression that most of the eighteenth-century schoolmasters were an unreliable lot. Unlike the dominies or lay readers who taught church schools in earlier days, the teachers available in the 1700's were usually itinerants, often bound servants, runaways at that, and frequently drunken.

[41] Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 534. We have not been able to locate documentary evidence of his commission.

[42] *New Jersey Archives*, First Series, XXIV, 451.

[43] "Some Account of the Life, Sufferings, and Exercises of Elizabeth Ashbridge," *Friends' Miscellany*, V, 1-45, quoted by David Murray, *History of Education in New Jersey* (U.S. Bureau of Education, Circular 1, 1899).

[44] *New Jersey Archives*, First Series, XII, 583.

Schoolmasters in those days were not respected professional men, as were lawyers, doctors, or ministers of the gospel.

At about the time the Old School House was built, however, definite attempts were being made to improve the quality of schoolteaching. "In 1758," we are informed, "Governor Bernard was instructed by the home authorities to prohibit any Englishman from teaching school in the province of New Jersey, except the applicant show license from the Bishop of London. All other persons were required to secure the Governor's license."[45]

On October 21, 1760, Governor Thomas Boone issued a proclamation forbidding all persons to "execute the Office of a Schoolmaster," without a license. Youth, he said, "ought not to be trusted but to Persons of Good Character, and loyal Principles, and professed Protestants."[46]

Perhaps because of these higher standards, the tone of the advertisements of schools in newspapers improves markedly in the 1760's. In that decade there seem to have been good private grammar schools in Burlington, in Belleville, Elizabethtown, Trenton, and Basking Ridge, and the Princeton English School was organized under the wing of the College of New Jersey.[47] Our school was for some years the only one in Mount Holly. Although the Quakers were early proponents of general schooling, their records show that the first Friends school of Mount Holly was not established until 1779 and a schoolhouse was not erected until 1783. This schoolhouse too was on Brainerd Street, on land now owned and occupied by the Methodist Church.[48]

As to the actual building of the Old School House, no record has been found. Perhaps it was not actually built as soon as the lot was purchased (on September 21, 1759). Mount Holly is known to have been stricken that fall by an epidemic of smallpox.[49] Such a visitation could have had a paralyzing effect on the town. It is possible that construction of the new school

[45]Francis Bazley Lee, *New Jersey as a Colony and as a State*, I, 356.
[46]*New Jersey Archives*, First Series, XX, 498.
[47]*Ibid.*, XXIV, 106, 122, 167, 265-66, 407, 418.
[48]Thomas Woody, *Quaker Education in New Jersey*, p. 94.
[49]Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 227; *Journal* (Whitney), p. 90.

had to wait until the spring of 1760 brought clement weather and better health.

The Old School House eventually became known as the Brainerd School, but when and how the tradition arose that it was built and used by the Rev. John Brainerd is not clear. Like many other local traditions, this one is firmly rooted. In 1815, when the heirs of the original subscribers gave the building to the Female Benevolent Association, there is no mention of Brainerd in the deed of gift, as there might well have been if the story of his connection had been current then. In a manuscript of 1859 entitled "Annals of Old Mount Holly,"[50] Dr. Zachariah Read refers to the schoolhouse not as the Brainerd School, but as "the ancient School house." John Brainerd's biography, published in 1865, states that he built a schoolhouse near the church on New or Brainerd Street. Perhaps this began the tradition. It took rapid hold. By 1883, Woodward and Hageman writing their *History of Burlington and Mercer Counties* assert without question Brainerd's connection with the School House.[51]

The Female Benevolent Association also never questioned Brainerd's connection. Not many years ago, the Association placed a tablet on the building, inscribed: "Brainerd Building, built in 1759 by the Rev. John Brainerd, Missionary to the American Indian."

Mr. George De Cou and Judge William A. Slaughter were among the first to challenge the tradition.[52] Two other leading antiquarians of Burlington County, Mr. Henry C. Shinn and Mr. Nathaniel Ewan, did likewise recently in letters to the *Mount Holly Herald* of October 26, 1950. The School House Committee of the Colonial Dames has come to agree fully with these four gentlemen.

The direct line of descent of the property, as proved by documents quoted above, shows the impossibility of its ever having been owned by Brainerd. But could John Brainerd perhaps have taught there during his years in Mount Holly?

[50]On file in the Mount Holly Library.
[51]Woodward and Hageman, *op. cit.*, p. 187.
[52]De Cou, *op. cit.*, p. 170.

When the Colonial Dames took possession of the schoolhouse in 1951, it seemed to us important to discover whether this much could be proved. Mrs. George Eckhardt, of the Atlantic County Historical Society, an able antiquarian and a tireless researcher, became a member of the School House Committee and studied carefully all the existing records and publications which have to do with John Brainerd in the hope of establishing a connection between him and the Old School House; for the story that he taught there does give a lustre to the ancient building. A year's work has convinced her that John Brainerd had no connection with the schoolhouse other than having in the years between 1761 and 1772 bought several large lots of land on both sides of Brainerd Street, at least two of which bordered on the Old School House plot.[53] The small Presbyterian Church which Brainerd built and which was probably his "preaching station in Mount Holly," with its graveyard, occupied the lot adjoining the schoolhouse lot on the west. A deed of 1842[54] gives the east boundary of the Presbyterian lot as "The Free School Lot." The Free School was, as we have seen, the name by which the Old School House was known during most of its ownership by the Benevolent Association.

A lot was sold by John Brainerd to the Society of Friends in 1779, described by deed as "situate on the south side of that lot of land whereon the Meeting House now stands in Mount Holly"[55] (the Meeting House having been built in 1775 on a wedge-shaped lot previously purchased from John Brainerd). This southerly lot, the deed states, is "bounded by the Presbyterian graveyard and the school house lot." Still another deed to property sold by Brainerd to the Friends is described as "bounded thence partly by the Presbiterian [*sic*] graveyard, and partly by a public school house lot."[56]

We can be sure that the Old School House was nearly surrounded for some years by John Brainerd's property; but it was not his school, or a Presbyterian school.

[53]Deeds in Burlington County courthouse and the State House, Trenton.

[54]In possession of the Methodist Episcopal trustees, who bought the "Presbyterian Church Lot and Graveyard" from the trustees of the Presbyterian Church when the new Methodist Church was to be built.

[55]Burlington County Deeds, Book A2, p. 150.

[56]*Ibid.*, p. 162.

Mrs. Eckhardt's further reasoning runs as follows: We know that at least nine of the twenty-one founders of the school were Quakers and perhaps seven were members of St. Andrews. Says Janet Whitney, the schoolhouse "was dominated by a Quaker majority."[57] The Quakers did not care for the Presbyterian catechism; nor did John Brainerd care for the Quaker faith. "When Brainerd enjoyed Quaker hospitality, he endeavored to convince his hosts of the need of belief in the outward baptism, which they rejected," says Amelia Mott Gummere.[58] Another quotation, on the history of Tuckerton, says, "John Brainerd shook the dust off his feet and went over to Bass River where there were less Quakers."[59]

Letters from Brainerd show the same feeling: "There are two large counties . . . almost wholly destitute of a preached gospel except what the Quakers do in their way."[60] Another letter:

> I addressed the legislature for some assistance not only for support of a school, but for erecting a grist-mill, trading post, blacksmith shop on the Reservation. The Governor, Council, Speaker of the House thought well of it, but the Quakers and others made opposition and it finally went against us.[61]

And still another excerpt:

> I spent some time in conversation with the man of the house, whom I found to be a Quaker. Endeavored to convince him of the reasonableness and duty of family religion such as asking a blessing, family prayers, etc. He was *not* willing to *comply*.[62]

It is significant that John Brainerd's name does not appear in the journal, the account books, or other writings of John Woolman. Brainerd lived in Mount Holly for four years before Woolman left on his fatal journey to England in 1772, and had been frequently in the town for the nine years before he moved there. Surely if there had not been a doctrinal coolness between them, there would have been some record of the acquaintance of these two great men.

Brainerd's first and greatest interest was his mission to the

[57] Woolman, *Journal* (Whitney), p. 329.
[58] Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 77.
[59] *Proceedings of the Surveyors Association of West Jersey* (1880), p. 218.
[60] Thomas Brainerd, *Life of John Brainerd*, p. 317.
[61] *Ibid.*, p. 318.
[62] *Ibid.*, p. 172.

Indians. He was a missionary first; then he was a minister of the gospel, spreading the Presbyterian faith with equal zeal in two wilderness counties of South Jersey and along the coast from Tom's River to Cape May. The school for which he worked was an Indian School at Brotherton.[63] In 1759, the very year that our School House was being established, John Brainerd, at the request of Governor Bernard, gave up the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church in Newark, a position of great prestige, to become superintendent of the new reservation for the Indians south of the Raritan River. This change took moral courage, but John Brainerd was a dedicated man. When he consulted the Synod in Philadelphia, the Synod advised him "to give up the temporal advantages of the comfortable settlement at Newark and settle as a missionary among the poor Indians, with which advice he readily and generously compiled."[64] It is unlikely, however, that Brainerd, a noted divine, would have taken on the job of village schoolmaster, for that in contrast was a humbler position, untouched by the missionary fervor he would put into saving the souls and cultivating the minds of the Indians.

It is unlikely also that Brainerd had time or strength to teach school in Mount Holly. He had his work at Brotherton; he was not only superintendent of the Reservation but, by appointment of the governor, civil guardian of the Indians;[65] and the Indians were troublesome wards because white men *would* sell them liquor. Besides his duties of looking after the material and spiritual welfare of the Indians, he preached at eight different places "on the Lord's day and near twenty on other days of the week."[66] He traveled long, tiresome journeys on horseback over two large counties and was paid fifty-nine pounds, nineteen shillings for preaching five hundred sermons.[67] He had to keep in constant touch with the Synod in Philadelphia, to appear before the New Jersey Assembly in behalf of the needs

[63]Numerous entries in records of the Presbyterian Historical Society show reports from Brainerd to the Synod of Philadelphia on the state of the Indian School at Brotherton, and money voted by the Synod to pay a teacher. *History of the Presbyterian Church*, pp. 380, 410, 427, 439.

[64]*Early History and Records of the Presbyterian Church*, pp. 294, 299.

[65]Book of Commissions, AAA, 369, Secretary of State's Office, Trenton.

[66]Brainerd, *op. cit.*, p. 316.

[67]De Cou, *op. cit.*, p. 169.

of the Indians; he was sent by the church on a missionary trip to the frontier; and appointed to the General Assembly in Connecticut. And from 1755 until his death in 1781, he was a trustee of the College at Princeton.

Is it any wonder that his health failed? Ill health—complete lack of physical strength to have taken on teaching in Mount Holly even had he wished to do so—is the final reason for which it is felt that John Brainerd never taught in the Old School House. In letters from Brotherton and Mount Holly he writes (1764), "I am in poor state of body scarce able to go on with my work. Nevertheless I do officiate in several places as well as I can." In 1769: "I am at present very poorly, almost worn out—neither time nor strength to write." In 1772: "Would that my state of health would permit me to do so." And in 1775: "My weak and frail body forbids me making a journey to attend the Board meeting" (of the church).[68]

We come now to John Woolman, and the evidence which connects his name with the Old School House. Woolman was deeply concerned about the proper education of children, and wrote two essays on the subject. One of them entitled "On Schools" was written in 1758, the year before the Old School House was begun, and possibly may have helped influence Woolman's friends in the meeting, such as Henry Paxson, to take the steps they did the following year to provide a suitable school for Mount Holly.

In another essay, "A Plea for the Poor," written in 1763, one part deals with teaching. Here Woolman deplores the fact that the management of children is sometimes committed to men who do not live under "the Seasoning Virtue of Truth." He continues:

> A large number of Children in a School is often a heavy weight on the mind of an honest Tutor, and when his thoughts and time are so much taken up in the more outward affairs of the School that he cannot attend to the Spirit and temper of each Individual . . . there the minds of Children often Suffer . . . To watch the Spirit of Children in School and Labour to bring them on as Lambs in the flock of Christ . . . is of greater moment than their improvement in the Knowledge of Letters.[69]

[68]Brainerd, *op. cit.*, pp. 342, 383, 394, 407.
[69]*Ibid.*, pp. 428, 429.

Even without the factual evidence we have that Woolman taught school, the above thoughts on teaching are clearly those of one who has himself labored in education. We have, however, as proof that Woolman actually taught, the testimony entered in Friends minutes some two years after his death:

> A Testimony of the Monthly meeting of Friends held in Burlington, the First Day of the Eighth Month of the Year of our Lord, 1774, concerning our esteemed friend, John Woolman.
>
> He several times opened a school in Mount Holly for the instruction of poor Friends' children and others, being concerned for their help and improvement therein. His love and care for the rising youth amongst us was truly great, recommending parents and those who have charge of them to choose conscientious and pious teachers.[70]

As for "improvement in the Knowledge of Letters," that too was a concern of Woolman. He wrote and published a primer, *A First Book for Children*, which he sold at the modest price of 3*d* a copy, since it was, as the title-page states, "Intended to save unnecessary expence."[71]

Anthony Benezet of Philadelphia, Woolman's friend, fellow-teacher, and close associate in the work against slavery, says of a *Spelling Book and Primmer* which they wrote together that Woolman's object was partly that "good mothers situate in lonely places may be enabled to instruct first themselves and then their children."[72]

Among historians of Mount Holly there have been differing opinions as to whether John Woolman did or did not do his teaching in the little school on Brainerd Street. Henry C. Shinn dismisses the possibility as one of several false ideas which have appeared about the schoolhouse.[73] Mrs. Gummere thinks it possible that Woolman taught there: "We do not know whether

[70] Woolman, *Journal and Esseys*, p. 331.

[71] *Ibid.*, p. 107. There is one known copy of this primer in existence, in the library of Devonshire House, London, and this is the third edition. It was published by Joseph Cruikshank of Philadelphia, also sold by Benjamin Ferriss, stationer and bookbinder, in Wilmington; and sold by Woolman himself, as witness various entries in his account book. Evidently the "First Book for Children" sold well, and was priced at a discount when sold in quantity. The price was low because Woolman's intention was public service and not profit.

[72] Woolman, *Journal* (Whitney), p. 333.

[73] *Mount Holly Herald*, Feb. 26, 1953.

the lessons were recited at Woolman's own house, at the meeting house, or at the near-by school."[74] Mrs. Whitney thinks it quite probable that Woolman used the Old School House.

> Woolman might have held school in his own small house—the phrase 'opened a school' might seem to suggest it; or more probably, owing to the double lack of a regular supply of scholars and of regular teachers, the little arched school house kept irregular term, and Woolman might have been one of those who opened it from time to time; not salaried by the trustees but charging each individual scholar according to the parent's means.[75]

And again Mrs. Whitney speaks of

> the probability that John Woolman's teaching was done, from time to time, in the little arched school house, which had no resident teachers, no regular term system of curriculum, no salary attached to it, and whose trustees were his intimate friends . . .[76]

As to the theory that Woolman taught in his own home, "The inconvenience of keeping a school, even a small and irregular one, in the single living room of a small house, would seem to rule it out, when a school house was available less than a quarter-mile away . . ."

When John Woolman

> started a school, where some children paid and some did not, he surely made use of the best conveniences available. And what was available was a rent-free building, where an approved schoolmaster was encouraged to hold school for as many children as he could get to come, or liked to be responsible for.[77]

The minutes of the Burlington Monthly Meeting make no mention of the new meeting house's having been used as a school; nor do they speak of Woolman's school as being under the care of the meeting.[78] All such matters were carefully recorded by the Friends.

It is felt that the strongest evidence linking the Old School House on Brainerd Street with John Woolman's school comes from his own account books. In his ledgers, between the years 1762 and 1770, John Woolman entered items "To Schooling thy

[74]Woolman, *Journal and Essays*, p. 108.
[75]Woolman, *Journal* (Whitney), p. 330.
[76]*Ibid.*, p. 333. [77]*Ibid.*, p. 335. [78]*Ibid.*, p. 330.

Child" against fourteen men. Of these fourteen, five were shareholders in the Old School House, practical businessmen of Mount Holly, who had put up their money to buy land and build a school; and then put up more to continue its usefulness by "needfull Repairs" and by providing a stove to heat it in cold weather.

These five shareholders, whose children John Woolman wrote in the record that he taught, were John Bispham, John Hatkinson, Earl Shinn, Josiah White, and John Monrow, all Quakers except Monrow and every one of them a close friend of Woolman.[79] Is it not likely that they would wish their children to be taught in the schoolhouse they jointly owned and had gone to pains to provide?

There is known to have been a special "School Book" where the indebtedness of parents to Woolman was listed, indicating that other fathers besides those named in the ledgers may have owed him for teaching their children. The "School Book" has not come to light, but a ledger item describes it: under date of May 5, 1764, John Woolman credits his brother Asher with £8, "To leaving the School Book in which Employers were indebted to me, with directions for them to pay thee, which thou accepted as cash from me."[80] £8 is a considerable amount compared to some of the tuition fees charged by Woolman, and hence might easily cover a number of pupils. At any rate, the brother was to collect the money owed to John Woolman for his teaching, and thus balance an account Woolman owed him.

The "School Book" suggests too that the school was a going concern, with some slight organization. So do the entries in the ledger which show that Woolman frequently supplied not only schooling for the children of his friends but also their share of wood to heat the schoolhouse. Five months after the purchase of the Cain stove (which date was November 13, 1765), Woolman charged Jabez Eldridge "To providing part of thy share of wood for school"[81]; and somewhat later (March, 1767), John

[79]Ledger B, p. 232, 38, 242.
[80]*Ibid.*, p. 234.
[81]*Ibid.*, p. 20.

Hatkinson is billed 6*s* 5*d* "to Schooling Children and Some Wood."[82]

An indication that the school Woolman taught was not his private venture, but the project of a group, may be seen in one reference to it as "Our School," in this entry (December 28, 1765) in his account with Robert Parrish of Philadelphia: "Then thy son John came to Board with us, and to be taught in Our School and went home 20 da 3 mo next after. Agreed that I have 5/6 per week besides his work mornings."[83]

"Our School" could not have meant a Friends school, as the first school in the care of the meeting did not open in Mount Holly until 1780.[84] We like to think that the schoolhouse which was "Our School" to John Woolman is now "Our School" to the Colonial Dames, the Old School House on Brainerd Street. Perhaps we have no documentary proof that Woolman taught in the Old School House in Mount Holly, but there is a strong indication that he did. And we hope for more evidence and more light.

[82]*Ibid.*, p. 232.
[83]*Ibid.*, p. 242.
[84]Woody, *op. cit.*, p. 94.

And We Replied

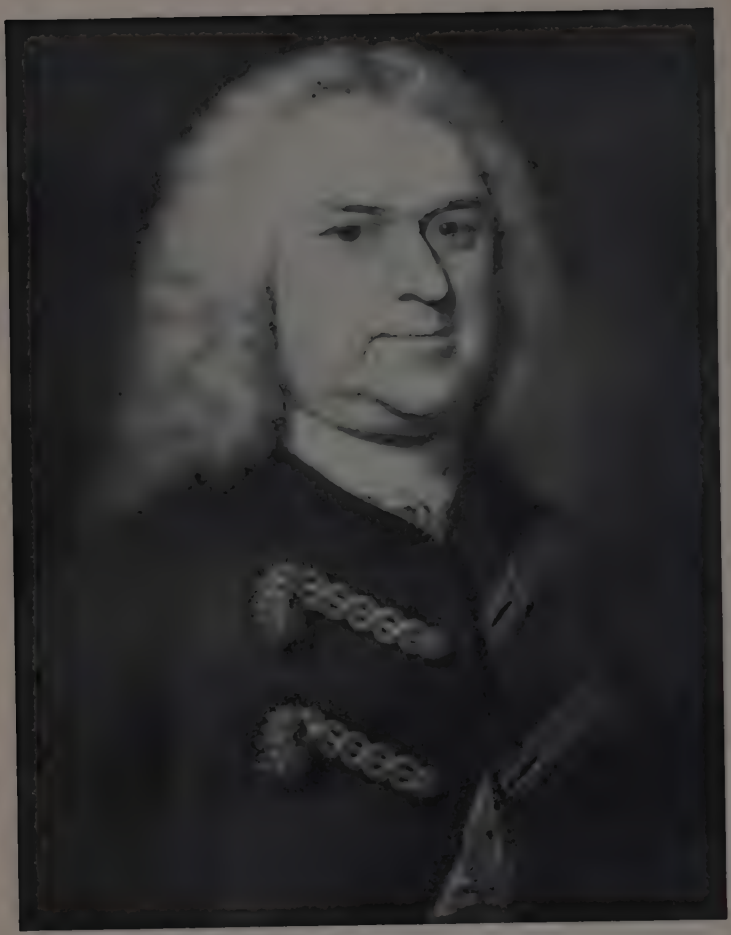
ELMER T. HUTCHINSON

As in the January issues of past years, we present here the non-statistical part of Mr. Hutchinson's 1953 report as the Society's corresponding secretary, read by him at the annual meeting on October 28 past. He has completed recently his seventeenth year in that office.

Of the many subjects on which information has been sought, three have been selected for your attention because of their general interest.

One inquirer solicited data on an Indian reservation in New Jersey established or presided over by the celebrated John Brainerd, Presbyterian missionary to the West Jersey Indians. He was informed that the reservation in question, known as Brotherton, was located in Evesham Township (now called Shamong), Burlington County, some nine miles southeast of Medford and at the headwaters of the Mullica River. Its establishment goes back to an early date. On August 2, 1758, the colonial Assembly passed an act authorizing the commissioners of Indian affairs to purchase, with the consent of the governor, a tract of land for the exclusive use of the Indians. On the 29th of the same month Governor Francis Bernard and the commissioners purchased from Benjamin Springer a tract containing 3,044 acres at a cost of £740. The present village of Indian Mills is located a little south of its center. Title to the land was taken by the province of West Jersey, "in trust for the Indians," and it was to be free from taxation, with the sale of intoxicating drinks prohibited.

It will be recalled that during the protracted conferences between the British and the Indians at Easton, Pennsylvania, which took place during October, 1758, the many conflicting claims between the Indians and the white men about the titles to various tracts and parcels of land were amicably settled by payment to the Indians of eight hundred milled dollars. The Indians then waived all claims and demands on lands in the colony, except only the right of hunting and fishing. As an



GOVERNOR JONATHAN BELCHER, 1682-1757

From the original pastel portrait, a recent gift to Princeton University. It is believed to have been executed in England shortly before Belcher's return to serve (1747-57) as royal governor of New Jersey. The artist is unidentified.

additional consideration they were assured that a reservation would be provided as a homeland for them and their descendants.

On June 15, 1759, some eight months after the land had been purchased, Governor Bernard informed the Board of Trade that he had gone to Burlington County and laid out an Indian reservation to which he had given the name Brotherton. The territory of which Brotherton formed a part had been known as Edgepillock, from the name of the tribe that lived there.

Shortly after Brotherton was laid out, somewhat over one hundred Indians took up the land assigned to them. About the same time the Reverend John Brainerd arrived, and under his guidance a log or frame meeting-house was erected and later a schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, grist mill, and trading post were built. This latter enabled the Indians to exchange their peltries and produce for necessities, thus avoiding a long trek to the nearest settlement and the lure of the village tavern. In 1762 Governor Hardy appointed Brainerd superintendent of the reservation.

In 1801 the Brotherton Indians received an invitation from their kinsmen, the Mohigans, to live with them at New Stockbridge, near Oneida Lake, New York. They petitioned the state legislature to sell the reservation and turn the proceeds over to them. Early the following spring the tract was divided into lots of not over one hundred acres, and, on May 25, 1802, was sold at vendue to the highest bidder. Later that year the Indians, numbering about eighty-five, moved to New Stockbridge. Tradition says it required twelve wagons to carry their household goods and farm impliments. The aged rode in the wagons and the young walked.

The New Jersey Indians and their hosts, the Mohigans, migrated in 1822 to a tract of land on Fox River near Green Bay. Wisconsin, and later found a home among the tribes in Indian Territory. However, Brotherton served its purpose for forty-three years and was the first Indian reservation in the United States established by either federal or state legislation.

The recent announcement by Princeton University that it had acquired, after a search of one hundred and seventy years, a

pastel portrait of Jonathan Belcher occasioned a request for information about the personal and political life of Belcher. We were asked further why he is referred to as the University's earliest benefactor.

Jonathan Belcher, second royal governor of the colony of New Jersey after its separation from New York, was the son of Andrew Belcher, a wealthy Boston merchant, and was born January 8, 1681/2. After being graduated from Harvard College in 1699, second in his class, he sailed for Europe, where he spent six years. During his stay he visited the court of Hanover and became acquainted with the Princess Sophia and her son, George Augustus, later George II of England, through whom he prepared the way for his future advancement. In 1702 he was granted the degree of A.M. by Harvard, and on January 4, 1705/6, he was married at Piscataway, New Hampshire, to Mary, daughter of Lieutenant-Governor William Partridge. She died October 6, 1736, in Boston, where her husband was employed in his father's business. In 1729 he went back to England, this time as agent for New England at the court of Great Britain, and on November 29, 1730, he was appointed governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. He held this office until 1741 when, after a troubled administration, he was superseded by Governor Shirley.

Again Belcher went to London, where he reinstated himself in the royal favor and on July 18, 1746, the King appointed him Captain General and Governor of the Province of New Jersey to succeed Lewis Morris, who had died in Trenton May 21, 1746. Belcher sailed from England in May, 1747, aboard the *Scarborough*, British man-of-war, and arrived at Sandy Hook on August 8. Early the next morning he was transported by barge to Perth Amboy where on August 10 he published his commission. He took up temporary quarters in the house of Richard Smith, a Quaker, of Burlington, and on December 4, 1748, purchased a permanent home in that city, calling it "World's End."

While residing in London in 1744, he had made the acquaintance of a widow, Mrs. Louisa Leal, to whom he subsequently proposed marriage. About the first of September, 1748, she ar-

rived at Philadelphia and they were married September 8 at Burlington. Finding that the air of Burlington did not agree with him, he sought a change of location. Deciding on Elizabethtown, he purchased the property now known as 1046 East Jersey Street (the original house is still standing) and took possession on November 1, 1751. He died here August 31, 1757, and was buried at Cambridge, Massachusetts. The grave is unknown, as no stone marks the spot.

Before Belcher came to America to assume his duties as governor of New Jersey, there are indications that he entertained more than a passive interest in the affairs of the college founded at Elizabethtown in 1746. We know that when the *Scarborough* returned to England she carried numerous letters written by the governor to wealthy friends in Europe telling them of his interest in the erection of a college building and expressing the hope of receiving donations for that purpose. Less than six weeks after his arrival he wrote to the committee of the West Jersey Society in London, "I find the people of this province are in a poor situation for educating their children. I am, therefore, for promoting the building of a college for the instruction of youth." Later, on October 2, 1747, he wrote a friend in England, "Princeton fixed upon as the site of the college . . ." The original charter, dated October 22, 1746, given by John Hamilton, president of His Majesty's Council, lacked adequate provisions for the development of the college at Elizabethtown. Belcher therefore undertook the sponsoring of a revised charter that would meet both present and future requirements of the institution. While it is not clear when the governor began preparing the new charter, on January 25, 1748, he wrote to the Reverend Ebenezer Pemberton, one of the founders, that if a new charter was thought advisable he wished Mr. Pemberton and others to digest the plan and submit it to him.

That Pemberton's response was in the affirmative and the requested plans were submitted is borne out by the governor's letter of March 21, 1748, to the Reverend Aaron Burr in which he expressed his intention to have "the charter of the college perfected before commencement which I understand is fixed for

the third Wednesday in May" (i.e., May 15). The work was completed before that time, as a tentative draft of the document was distributed to each of the interested parties on May 13. Subject to a few minor alterations, the charter was approved, and by July 28, 1748, had been endorsed by the attorney general, passed the seals and delivered to the governor, who immediately requested President Burr and the Reverend Mr. Pemberton to wait upon him in Burlington to receive it. As a formal expression of appreciation for his indefatigable efforts in behalf of the college, President Burr in 1748 bestowed upon Belcher the degree of Master of Arts, the first honorary degree ever granted by the College of New Jersey.

On September 24, 1755, the trustees of the college forwarded to Belcher an address in which were recited the many benefits they owed to his patronage and influence. It stressed his solicitation of funds abroad which contributed in large measure toward the erection of the first building in Princeton. It expressed gratitude for his gifts of books, globes, and other valuable material, followed by a statement of their purpose to arrange that "one of the principal apartments of the building be adorned with the arms and effigies of its great patron and benefactor." The trustees also expressed their desire to name the building Belcher Hall. With rare modesty he declined the favor and asked them to call it Nassau Hall in honor of King William III of the illustrious House of Nassau. The trustees therefore voted "that the said edifice be in all times to come, called and known by the name of Nassau Hall." For some years thereafter the institution was frequently referred to as the College of Nassau Hall.

It should be borne in mind that from 1747, when Belcher arrived in New Jersey, until 1756 the college was located in Newark. Not until July 29, 1754, was ground broken in Princeton. Nassau Hall was completed in the autumn of 1756 and the student body moved from Newark to its new abode. At the time of its erection it was said to be the largest building of its kind in the British provinces of North America, having accommodations for one hundred students, a recitation hall, chapel, and library. When considering the great lengths to which he

went in behalf of the infant college, we can readily understand why Princeton University acclaims Belcher as its great patron and benefactor.

A correspondent writes of having visited an old stone building, said to have been an early tavern, located on the Old Mine Road in Walpack Township, Sussex County. The building is alleged to occupy the site of an ancient fort, and she asks if the fort legend is true, if there were other forts in the county, and, if so, why they were built in such an inaccessible region.

The Old Mine Road was of Dutch origin, laid out sometime before the year 1664 for the purpose of transporting by ox team copper ore from the Pahaquarry mines in lower Sussex County to Esopus (now Kingston), New York. This was a distance of about one hundred miles and the road is believed to be the first one of such length in North America.

Although the fact is not mentioned by our correspondent, this neighborhood holds another point of historic interest. In a northerly direction near the old inn is the site of a Dutch Reformed log meeting-house, erected some years before the Revolutionary War and abandoned early in the nineteenth century. Here in the neglected, overgrown burial yard may be seen a stone marking the lonely grave of Anna, wife of Colonel John Cleves Symmes of Western Reserve fame. She died July 25, 1776, the mother of Anne Symmes, who became the wife of William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States.

As to the stone building mentioned by our querist, it was built about 1750 and conducted as a tavern by Isaac Van Campen. From the tales of this wayside inn we learn that John Adams was entertained here on numerous occasions when journeying from his home in Quincy, Massachusetts, to Philadelphia for the sessions of Congress. Count Pulaski, as well as other prominent men, is said to have enjoyed Van Campen's hospitality. But the belief that the inn stands on the site of a fort, known as Shappanack, is wholly in error. The fort stood on a high plateau some distance to the rear of the tavern, where it had an unrestricted view of the Delaware River Valley.

There were a number of scattered fortifications in the proxim-

ity of the Delaware River in Sussex County. These were erected shortly after the outbreak of the French and Indian War. As early as August of 1754 the approaching danger was foreseen and an appeal was made to the King that "a certain and permanent method be established for maintaining such forts as are already built upon the [New Jersey] frontiers or may be necessary to build." By February, 1755, four small forts were defended by 250 men under command of Pontius Stelle. Before these defences were built, as many as fifteen hundred men had to patrol the farmlands and woods. The following December, additional forts, to be defended by from three to four hundred men, were authorized by the colony, and the sum of £10,000 was appropriated to defray the cost. Colonels Abraham Van Campen and James Anderson together with Richard Gardiner were appointed to decide on their location. All forts bordering on the Delaware were under orders to announce the approach of Indians by signal guns. Intervals between shots would indicate whether the invading force was large or small. Pillage and massacre continued through the year 1757 but, as 1758 advanced, attacks became less frequent and by November had so far diminished as to warrant a reduction of protecting forces to two hundred men.

The few forts known by name are Shappanack, three and a half miles below Dingman's Ferry; Walpack, near Flatbrookville, six and a half miles south of Dingman's Ferry; Shippeconk, about five miles south of Port Jervis; an unidentified fort at Colonel Van Campen's, thirty miles above Easton; Brodhead's, one of the last to be built, four miles north of Delaware Water Gap; and Nomenock, about four miles north of Dingman's Ferry. The last mentioned is the sole remaining example of this chain of fortifications; it is rapidly falling into ruin, however, and its existence will soon be merely a hazy memory.

You may recall that in the course of my 1952 report, mention was made of the extravagant representations, by family annalists, respecting the virtues and abilities of their ancestors. My skeptical observation was that this singular absence of delin-

quents might well entitle them to proclaim "never a sable sheep in the flock or a skeleton in the cupboard." Recently I chanced upon some reflections of a rustic philosopher which appear to explain this phenomenon. All exemplary traits and conspicuous achievements he attributes to heredity; indiscretions, however, are the work of predestination—hence are unavoidable. What a convenience for the promotion of family reputation!

To The Editor

Dear Mr. Sinclair:

The July, 1953, Proceedings contains a most interesting article on the Loyalist ode, "Long as Sun and Moon Endure." In this article the author says that the "manuscript copy made by Pierre Du Simitiere . . . offers no hint as to the identity of its authors." I believe I can furnish this information, having done considerable research on Rev. Jonathan Odell, its author, for about three years.

In his *Literary History of the American Revolution,* Moses Coit Tyler describes the occasion as follows:

> On June 4, 1776, the birthday of George III, a number of British officers who had been captured by General Montgomery in Canada several months before and were then [being] held as prisoners at Burlington, celebrated the day by a dinner under the trees on a little island in the Delaware [River]. It was but a few miles above the spot where the Continental Congress was in session. It was but one month before independence was presented to [the] Congress by Richard Henry Lee. It was but one month before independence itself was declared. Although, at that very moment, the air was ablaze with the fiery demand for a total and final rejection of the authority of the King, Jonathan Odell wrote on behalf of these captive friends of his, a glowing ode for the royal birthday in which he sets forth first, the enthusiasm with which throughout all other portions of the British Empire the day was then being celebrated; next, the deplorable lack of enthusiasm for the King's birthday, characterizing, at that time, a considerable party among his American subjects; and finally, their own undying devotion to the glorious monarch whose throne it is here recorded, was to stand as long as the sun and the moon shall endure.

The ode also appears in *The Loyal Verses of Joseph Stansbury and Dr. Jonathan Odell Relating to the American Revolution,* by Winthrop Sargent, although some of the words are not precisely the same. In this collection of Loyalist poetry, the poem is called "Birthday Ode" and the preface, written by Winthrop Sargent, has the following to say about the poem and the circumstances under which it was first sung:

> Written by Dr. Odell on occasion of the King's Birthday, June 24, 1776; and sung by a number of British officers who had been captured at St.

John's and Chambly by General Montgomery and made prisoners. These officers were then imprisoned at Burlington, N.J. Wanting to celebrate the King's Birthday, and not wishing to offend the citizens of Burlington, they had an entertainment in honor of the day prepared on an island in the river Delaware where they dined under a tree. This poem is from the author's copy collated with a contemporaneous manuscript.

The date of "June 24, 1776" given above is probably a printer's error since both Du Simitiere's manuscript copy and Moses Coit Tyler agree on June 4, 1776; furthermore, Mr. Tyler, as you will note, compares the date to the day on which we celebrate our American independence, thereby emphasizing it.

I shall cite just a few of the stanzas from the Sargent book to illustrate the difference in words as compared to Du Simitierre's version:

O'er Britannia's happy land
Rul'd by George's mild command
On this bright, auspicious day,
Loyal hearts their tribute pay
Ever sacred be to mirth
The day that gave our Monarch birth!

V

Now to Britain's Isle confined—
Many a distant Region join'd
Under George's happy sway
Joys to hail this welcome day

VII

Here we now lament to find
Sons of Britain fierce and blind
Drawn from loyal love astray
Hail no more this welcome day

The substitution of "In" for "O'er" in the first stanza; of "devoted" for "sacred" (and with "ever" changed to scan more easily in each case) in the chorus; of "Nor" for "Now" in the fifth stanza as well as "gladsome" for "welcome," all suggest that someone has tried to improve upon the original version printed by Sargent. In addition, Sargent printed twelve stanzas as compared to the eleven stanzas contained in Professor Havi-

land's article and as apparently copied by Du Simitiere. The stanza omitted (it is number six in the Sargent version) follows:

> O'er this Land among the rest
> Till of late supremely blest
> George, to sons of Britain dear,
> Swell'd the song from year to year

It is also interesting to note that Rev. Odell or Dr. Odell, as he was variously known, also composed another "Birthday Song" in New York exactly one year after his Burlington "Birthday Ode." This was printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine,* a London publication, in 1777.

Described as "the most powerful and most unrelenting of the Tory satirists," Odell was the personification of the grim, scathing, Revolutionary-hating Loyalist who was determined to wipe out and stamp out the Revolutionary movement of the Colonies. Although he is depicted by both Tyler and Vernon L. Parrington (*Main Currents of American Thought*) as a vituperative, detestable, inept poet and writer, Jonathan Odell's efforts to defeat the cause he hated so bitterly were not limited to writing alone. He was, at various times, a political writer, a spy, a minister, a doctor, a translator of no mean ability, a scholar of the first rank, and an able secretary. And he employed all of these talents in fighting to the utmost the attempt of the Colonies to obtain their freedom from George the Third. When that attempt succeeded, he was forced into exile—first in England, later in Nova Scotia, where he became a prominent official in the province.

By way of final explanation, I must say that Odell's writings and versatility in the above-mentioned fields first attracted my attention a few years ago. I am continuing my research and hope to write a biography of this remarkable man some time in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick W. Bogert,
568 Paramus Road
Paramus, New Jersey.

DIRECTOR'S DIARY

ALEXANDER J. WALL, JR.

JANUARY begins a new year. It is a favorite time to make resolutions of good behavior and to hope for continued or increasing success and achievement. Historical societies are human too. We who work in them always hope for new and exciting gifts, increased funds, or new ideas to tell our story. It would be hard, however, to hope for a better year than the one just passed in so far as gifts to our library and museum are concerned. We have recorded in earlier issues such outstanding gifts as the Revolutionary orderly book of the 1st Brigade of Artillery under General Knox at Morristown, 1780, from Reeve Schley, and the silver teapot made by Elias Boudinot about 1750, purchased for the Society by a group of its friends.

These fine gifts were succeeded, in October, by a unique presentation from Mrs. Lucien B. Horton of thirteen original plumbago drawings by New Jersey's first limner, John Watson of Perth Amboy, and the original manuscript Indian deed to Elizabethtown, dated 1664, the first conveyance of land in New Jersey under proprietary rule. The thirteen drawings, executed sometime during the mid-eighteenth century, plus two already owned by the Society, now comprise the largest single Watson collection in existence. A further illustrated account is planned to appear in the April PROCEEDINGS, when the drawings will be placed on exhibition.

In appreciation for these gifts Mrs. Horton was elected a Patron of the Society and presented with a certificate at the annual meeting on October 28. This meeting was an extremely well-attended affair which included a morning business meeting followed by luncheon and an afternoon address, "Teaching New Jersey to Know Itself," by Lloyd M. Felmly, editor of the Newark *News*. Eight trustees were re-elected for a term of three years: Charles B. Bradley, Frederick Frelinghuysen, Mrs. Maud H. Greene, Frederick H. Groel, Elmer T. Hutchinson, Donald A. Sinclair, Rt. Rev. Benjamin M. Washburn, and Donald B. Kipp.

Visitors to our library will shortly meet a new member of the staff. He is Audubon R. Davis, who on February 1 will assume the position of assistant librarian. Mr. Davis comes to us from the Bucks County Historical Society, Doylestown, Pa., where he has been librarian since 1951. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, with an M.S. in library science from Drexel Institute of Technology. He has served as assistant librarian in the Library Company of Philadelphia

and in the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mr. Davis' experience and training will, we are sure, serve him well in his new position with the Society.

Readers may recall the wreath-laying ceremonies by this Society at the grave of Josiah Hornblower in the Belleville Reformed churchyard on September 9 last, to mark the two-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first steam engine in America. December 10 saw the culmination of the commemoration of this event when the officers and trustees of the Society held a luncheon in our building for executives of New Jersey industry, at which Mr. Hobart C. Ramsey, president of the Worthington Corporation of Harrison, gave an address on "New Jersey—Pioneer of Industrial America." Present were some forty business executives, institutional members, and descendants of Josiah Hornblower, who were unanimous in their enthusiasm for Mr. Ramsey's presentation (which is published in this issue). In conjunction with this program, the Exhibit-of-the-Month for December displayed in our main floor corridor, was devoted to "Josiah Hornblower and his Steam Engine." Featured were an enlarged silhouette of Hornblower, illustrations and photos of his engine and the mine site, and documents associated with his public and private life in New Jersey.

Two other activities involving exhibits were the opening of a small Currier and Ives alcove, and re-installation of the Frelinghuysen room. To achieve the latter, realistic electric logs were laid in the fire place, a set of eighteenth-century writing utensils—quill, inkwell, sander, stationery, and lamp—were added to the desk, playing cards and whist counters to the card table, a tea service, candle sticks, music for the piano, a pair of spectacles for reading the eighteenth-century book on the table, and a decanter of "wine" were also included.

During November a total of more than 250 adults and children attended the four Saturday-morning motion picture series. The films, all in color, revolved mostly about Colonial Williamsburg and included "Williamsburg Restored," "Decision at Williamsburg," and "The Colonial Printer." Another series is scheduled for January, the theme being "Films of Contemporary America." Among those scheduled to be shown are: "The Swedes in America," "The American Teacher," and the provocative film, "What is Modern Art?" on January 9; "A Heritage We Guard" and "Valley of the Tennessee" on January 16; "Cape Ann Story" and "A Place to Live" on January 23; and "Radio Broadcasting Today" and "United States" on January 30.

Preliminary plans are being made for the fourth annual New Jersey Historical Conference to be held at Princeton, probably in early June, co-sponsored this year by the Princeton Historical Society. Once more a varied program of papers, workshop sessions, and a tour of the historical points of interest in the area is being arranged. Further details of this traditional event will be announced in the April PROCEEDINGS.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE

We welcome a new historical society to the roster of such institutions in New Jersey. The Springfield Historical Society came into being on December 3 at an organization meeting when a constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers were elected to serve until the first annual meeting of the Society in January. Judge Henry C. McMullen of Springfield was elected acting president, Howard W. Wiseman of Maplewood, acting secretary, and Charles F. Heard of Springfield, acting treasurer. The new society's aims and purposes are to collect and preserve the history of Springfield, Millburn, Short Hills, west Maplewood, and east Summit. It is planned to hold quarterly meetings at historic places in the area, and of course new members will be welcomed. The mail address of the Society is P.O. Box 13, Springfield, N. J.

"An Introduction to Silver," the second in a series of "dictionary" exhibitions in the field of the decorative arts, opened at the Newark Museum on Saturday, October 31, and will continue until the spring of 1954. Included in the exhibition are examples of European and American silver selected to show social usage, techniques of construction, changing styles and the development of certain familiar forms.

The silver extends in date from 1605 to 1953—a period of 350 years. Certain pieces are grouped together illustrating social usage. Among these are objects for sideboard or dining table, and the wine and punch equipment regarded as essential for every well-appointed household of the eighteenth century. Silver for the tea table forms another interesting story. Accessories include the kettle, teapot, tea caddy, sugar basin and creamer, trays, tongs, and canister.

The evolution of the salt dish is part of a section devoted to the development of forms resulting from changing social customs. Types of salt dishes range from a trencher salt used in England in the late seventeenth century to a set made recently by Adda Husted-Andersen of New York. Another chapter in development of forms occurs in the drinking cup; examples include ornamental standing cups in Renaissance style, caudle cups of the Stuart period, English and American Colonial beakers and tankards.

The flat silver shown relates styles from the first half of the seventeenth century through the changes ending in pieces of contemporary design and includes knives, forks, and a variety of spoons as well as implements seldom used on today's dining tables, such as a marrow scoop and a sucket fork for sweetmeats.

The Museum is especially interested in showing fine examples of silver owned in New Jersey and pieces made by New Jersey's early craftsmen. Among the early silversmiths of New Jersey whose work is represented are Elias Boudinot, John Fitch, Benjamin Halsted, Henry Lupp, and Nathaniel Coleman.

Several New Jersey churches have lent silver objects, among

them a chalice with paten-cover presented to Christ Church, Shrewsbury, by Queen Anne in 1708, and communion beakers made by Adrian Bancker of New York City and Henry Lupp of New Brunswick, for the First Reformed Church of New Brunswick in the eighteenth century. Of unusual interest is a bowl bequeathed to the First Presbyterian Church, Newark, by Deacon Azariah Crane in 1730, which is still used today as a baptismal bowl. Included also is the New Jersey Historical Society's silver teapot, made about 1750 by Elias Boudinot.

Museums, historical societies, private collectors, and owners nave lent generously to this exhibition. With their help in supplementing the Museum's own collection, it has been possible to show the fine work done by European and American craftsmen and to make this a visual "dictionary" of silver with a direct approach to the fundamentals of types, styles, and techniques.

On the evening of October 30 a special preview showing for Museum members, their guests, and lenders to the exhibition was held. John Devereux Kernan, Jr., of Englewood, a noted collector of silver and an authority in the field, was the speaker of the evening.

In connection with the exhibition, a series of three talks was scheduled for the first three Thursday evenings in November. Speakers were Mrs. James E. Cute, American silversmith, whose topic was "The Designer-Silversmith and His Medium"; Mrs. Yves Henry Buhler, Department of Decorative Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, speaking on "Colonial Silver of New England"; and V. Isabelle Miller, curator of the Museum of the City of New York, speaking on "New York and Philadelphia Silver —Some Distinguishing Features."

Gifts to the Museum in November included a pair of sugar tongs by Nathaniel Coleman of Burlington, N. J.

In Bergen County, an art exhibit of "Historic Sites in Bergen County," by members of the Bergen County Artists' Guild, was placed on display at the Steuben House, North Hackensack, for the month of November and attracted many visitors. The Steuben House serves as headquarters for the Bergen County Historical Society. For their fall meeting on November 19, a forum was held on "Should an historical society use its efforts to assist in public education to promote the study of local history?" Mr. Hughson Hawley, Jr., was moderator, Emil L. Wulster, lawyer, and Albert F. Carpenter, dean of Bergen Junior College, took the negative, with Mrs. Clarence Lofberg and Mrs. Robert McFall upholding the affirmative.

Archaeological activities have been making news lately. Dr. Dorothy Cross, archeologist of the New Jersey State Museum at Trenton, spoke on the similarities of Indian artifacts of Southern New Jersey and Delaware at the November meeting of the Sussex County Archeological Society, Rehoboth, Delaware. To the north, New Jersey was represented by nine delegates and guests at the

1953 annual meeting of the Eastern States Archeological Federation held in the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences on November 6-7. At one of the sessions Mr. Charles A. Philhower of Westfield read a paper on "Relationship of the Shawnee to the Munsee." Mr. Charles Kier of Hammonton, N.J., reported on the year's activities of the New Jersey Archeological Society, and plans are being formed for the 1954 meeting of the Federation to be held in Pittsburgh. Dr. Cross is chairman of the Program Committee, assisted by Mrs. Kathryn B. Greywacz, secretary of the Federation, both of the New Jersey State Museum.

The Archeological Laboratory of the New Jersey State Museum moved last July to new quarters. This was its fourth major move in the sixteen years of its existence. The new quarters are in the Switlik Building at Lalor and Jersey streets, in Trenton. Although it is some distance from the State Museum, the new situation is decidedly superior to all previous locations of the Laboratory.

First and foremost, the quarters provide ample space for the archaeological collections, which are grouped together for the first time since 1937. The collections are housed in the spacious office and laboratory rooms and on tiers of new shelving in two storerooms. All collections are now conveniently available for study and reference. Dr. Dorothy Cross, archeological advisor to the State Museum, is in charge of the Archeological Laboratory.

Talents of the Burlington County Historical Society and the Bordentown Historical Society were merged when in September Mr. Lewis Parker, recently elected president of the Burlington group, and Mr. Orson H. Brown, president of the Bordentown society, both addressed a meeting of the Burlington County society in the Bordentown High School auditorium. Mr. Parker spoke on "The Railroad Monument in Bordentown," and Mr. Brown had as his topic "Women of Bordentown." Mr. Jay B. Tomlinson, past president of the Burlington County Historical Society, also spoke, addressing the group on "The Gilder Family." In the course of the evening a considerable number of objects associated with Bordentown's history were displayed.

The Bordentown Historical Society is custodian of the Clara Barton School there. Several hundred visitors, including busloads of school children, have visited the school this year by making arrangements with Mr. Brown.

The Somerset County Historical Society, which was reactivated last winter, has been developing a varied and useful program of activities. Meetings are held monthly at the Somerset County Administration Building in Somerville. Primary activities have included: a series of lectures, most recent of which were "Indian Cultures of New Jersey," by Mr. Charles A. Philhower, of Westfield and Hell Mountain, N.J., and "New Jersey's Heritage," by Mrs. Olga Atkins, superintendent of State Historical Sites; publication of a brochure on Revolutionary activities in the county, with the aid of the Bound Brook Wom-

en's Literary Club and Calco Division, American Cyanamid Company; presentation of an excellent series of projects by the public schools, including pageant-plays, historic-site trips, notebooks, etc., conceived by and carried on through Dr. Sampson G. Smith, county superintendent of schools, a director of the Society; presentation to the Society by Hon. Peter Frelinghuysen, Jr., member of Congress from the Fifth District, and a member of the Society, of a United States flag flown over the Capitol, which the Society plans to display at local historic sites to commemorate anniversaries; and co-operation with the Bound Brook Rotary Club, which has a scholarship project in local history. Dr. David R. Evans is president.

We look now to the south: The Ocean County Historical Society heard former school-superintendent Charles A. Morris speak on "The Past Half-Century of Ocean County Schools," on December 3, when a meeting was held in the Freeholder Room of the Toms River courthouse. The Society recently opened a museum in the courthouse and plans are being made to issue a printed list of the objects which belong to its permanent collection of early Ocean County history.

On the opposite side of the state, the Gloucester County Historical Society will mark its fiftieth anniversary in January, 1954, at a meeting in Woodbury at which the Hon. Hugh L. Mehorter and Mrs. Robert T. Weatherill will be speakers. The fall meeting in September featured Mr. Albert J. Corcoran, president of the Gloucester City society, in an address on "The First White Settlement on the Delaware."

The Gloucester City Historical Society took occasion to observe its own tenth birthday when a dinner meeting was held on November 19 in Gloucester High School. Dr. Richard P. McCormick was guest speaker, and enthused his audience with his significant remarks on New Jersey's heritage.

Walter A. Lucas did the same for his audience on the subject of early New Jersey railroads at the September 22 meeting of the Nutley Historical Society. Mr. Lucas is historian of the town of Hawthorne and for the Paterson and Hudson River Railroad and the New York, Susquehanna and Western. Your director was invited to follow Mr. Lucas on December 10 with a talk on "St. Nicholas in the Christmas Legends." The Nutley society is successfully renovating an old school house for its headquarters and museum. Most of the work is accomplished by volunteer help led by their far-seeing president, Dr. Robert F. Heald.

The nearby East Orange Historical Society has begun a worthwhile project, with the co-operation of the schools, of compiling a book of clippings of "East Orange, Past and Present." The demolition of many homes and landmarks in this area caused by the Garden State Parkway has spurred the Society to save whatever it can of an historic nature from these passing edifices.

The Basking Ridge Historical Society commemorated its twenty-fifth anniversary on November 9,

when former Basking Ridge resident Fred B. Sutro spoke on "The Last 50 Years in Bernards Township" at the Township Hall in Basking Ridge.

The spirit of Thanksgiving was the theme of the November 18 meeting of the Paramus Historical and Preservation Society, which was opened with "A Thanksgiving Grace" by Robert Louis Stevenson, repeated in unison. After this grace and the salute to the flag, committee reports were given, with special attention to the fifth historical tour which took place on October 17 and which was attended by three hundred persons. President Jared Banta then turned the meeting over to the program chairman, Mrs. Howard Witherhead, who introduced the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Rosa Livingston. Colored slides of historical churches, homes, inns, and places of interest from past historical tours of the Society, taken by Mrs. Livingston, were shown with an accompanying talk. Home-made doughnuts, cider and coffee were served from a beautifully decorated Harvest Table.

Another successful pilgrimage was taken on October 17 by the Morris County Historical Society, when a motorcade was formed to tour Staten Island under the guidance of Loring McMillen, director of the Staten Island Historical Society. Eight stops were made on the tour, which began at the Pero or Kruser House on Willow Brook Road at the northern end of the island, and ended at the Billop Conference House, Tottenville, at the southern end, with luncheon on the grounds of the Stillwell-Perine House. Melvin J. Weig was chairman of the Pilgrimage Committee.

It is a good news to learn via the *Journal* of the Society of Architectural Historians that the American Institute of Architects has appointed a committee on the preservation of historic houses. Preservation officers have been nominated in about fifty of their chapters who, concurrently with a national inventory now under way, are acting in support of the program by assisting to preserve worthy structures, by supporting meritorious protective policies, by encouraging educational programs and publicity, by helping to insure competent professional restorations, and by preparing records of historic structures as time permits. New Jersey's preservation officer is Mr. Seymour Williams, 175 West State Street, Trenton 8, N. J.

Rutgers University Library has received a number of important accessions to its New Jersey collections. Manuscripts: 139 additional items of Anthony Walton White (1750-1803), a New Brunswick man who commanded the cavalry on the expedition to put down the Whiskey Rebellion, and was a Revolutionary veteran, militia commissioner for Middlesex County, and later adjutant general of the state; several hundred items between 1784 and 1804 of William R. Boote, a recruiting officer at New Brunswick for the U.S. Army; correspondence and records of the Modern School of the Ferrer Colony, Stelton, N.J., from 1922 to 1950; minutes of the Burlington County Board of Chosen

Freeholders, 1722-90; fifteen letters of Elisha Boudinot; papers—4791 items, 1731-1879—of Dr. Ferdinand S. Schenck (1790-1860), Franklin Park physician, legislator, member of Congress, Errors and Appeals judge of New Jersey, including letters to him from political associates between 1833 and 1837, with many papers of his father Martin Schenck (1770-1823), Somerset County sheriff and blacksmith; sixteen boxes of Benjamin B. Cooper papers of Gloucester County, a farmer and land speculator of extraordinary proportions, largely land records covering the period 1800-36, with notes on genealogy and on the Colestown Protestant Episcopal Church; Charles H. Winfield's compilations on the Winfield family. Newspapers: twenty-six volumes of the Trenton *State Gazette* between 1831 and 1861, eighty-nine volumes of the Sussex *Independent,* and seventeen volumes of the Newark *Daily Advertiser* between 1842 and 1853. The library is also currently microfilming the records of the West Jersey Proprietors (the minutes from 1686 having been completed and the surveys in process). All records of the Kingston Presbyterian Church have been filmed from 1792 to about 1900 and are now available for examination.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

David L. Sterling of 628 West 114th Street, New York City, is working on a possible doctoral dissertation dealing with Aaron Ogden (1756-1839), New Jersey Governor, and Thomas Gibbons, the two who played stellar roles in the famous Supreme Court case of Gibbons *vs.* Ogden.

An M.A. thesis of interest is being prepared for the Department of Geography, Indiana University, by Louis De Vorsey, Jr.: "The Growth and Distribution of Iron Manufacturing in New Jersey, 1780-1860." Mr. De Vorsey's home address in R.D. 2, Wharton, N.J.

Miss Angela Colaguiri, 70 Lincoln St., Passaic, N.J., is preparing an M.A. thesis on John Jacob Faesch and his role in the iron industry in Morris County. She is studying at Columbia University.

A biography of Noah Brooks (1830-1903) is being prepared by Wayne C. Temple, 300 South Goodwin, Apt. 311, Urbana, Ill., who is a member of the history faculty, University of Illinois. Brooks was a writer, and editor of the *Newark Daily Advertiser*, 1884-94.

Virginia E. Voigt of 9 East Clark Place, South Orange, assistant professor of education at Seton Hall University, is beginning work on her Ph.D. thesis, "Development of Teacher Education in New Jersey under Catholic Auspices."

Professor Ralph P. Rosenberg of Yeshiva University is compiling a biographical account of Dr. Hugo J. Walther, recipient of the first Ph.D. degree (in 1886) in German literature in the United States at Columbia University. Walther and his family were residents of Newark. The biography will appear in the

Germanic Review in 1954 (Department of Germanics, Columbia University).

"Place Names of Burlington County," an historical dictionary of place names, is being compiled by Dr. Henry H. Bisbee, 214 High Street, Burlington, N. J. Eventual publication in some form is planned.

Mr. Howard A. Krumwiede, of Highland Park, N. J., has been collecting data for many years on Middlesex County postal history. It is learned that his son-in-law, Michael Shaara, Jr., will write up this valuable information for publication.

A study of the life and works of Dr. William Carlos Williams is being prepared by Professor John C. Thirlwall, City College, New York 31, N.Y. He requests the loan of letters and other material concerning Dr. Williams "as physician, poet, or American." All such material will be photostated, but none of it will be published without Dr. Williams' consent.

SPEAKING OF GIFT HORSES

This society's library, although it has a good run of Newark City directories, lacks a few issues which we would like to acquire by gift. The following years are lacking: 1919, 1921, 1936, 1937, 1938 and all from 1944 to date.

Has anyone been wondering lately how to dispose of some unwanted Christmas tree ornaments? We at the Society are anxious to obtain ornaments used prior to about 1900 and would welcome donations, for the Society's museum collection.

NEW JERSEY IN PRINT

MIRIAM V. STUDLEY

THE work of selecting materials for listing in this column becomes more exacting, as more and more about New Jersey is published. Several important books await review in coming issues. The listing of many magazine articles on different phases of our changing times has had to be omitted; these references are kept in a card file, by subjects, in the New Jersey Division of the Newark Public Library, where anyone may consult them.

We have been informed by Lewis M. Parke, president of the Burlington County Historical Society, that a reprint of George De Cou's *Burlington, a Provincial Capital* is in the press.

The *History of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor*, A. F. of L., is nearly ready for publication. Lewis M. Hermann, chairman of the Historical Committee, and editor of the *New Jersey Labor Herald*, has just written us that it "will undoubtedly be sent to press within the next three months."

REVIEWS

Both book reviews presented in this issue are of volumes published by the New Jersey Agricultural Society, contributed by two of our members who are themselves authorities on New Jersey subjects. Mr. Rockefeller, as a life-long student of New Jersey imprints, has a special interest in the biography of Dr. Larison, author, editor, publisher, and teacher. Mr. Cunningham, well-known author of *Railroading in New Jersey*, 1952, and *This is New Jersey*, 1953, reviews Mrs. Robert Sim's *History of Canning in New Jersey* from the vantage point of his survey of New Jersey industries, currently being published in the *Newark Sunday News*.

Country Doctor: Cornelius Wilson Larison of Ringoes, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 1837-1910, Physician, Farmer, Educator, Author, Editor, Publisher and Exponent of Phonetic Spelling. By HARRY B. WEISS. Trenton: New Jersey Agricultural Society, 1953. 235 pages.

Dr. Weiss, a resident of Highland Park, New Jersey, is director of the Division of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture. While engaged in a responsible position he

has used his spare time for the study of early American publications, principally those known as juveniles. Over a long period of time he has contributed many interesting articles to the *Bulletin of the New York Public Library*, dealing with such subjects as children's books, chapbooks, letter-writers, and jest books. *Country Doctor* is of particular interest to this reviewer for about twenty years ago when preparing a paper on the history of Ringoes, New Jersey, he came across a bound copy of the magazine *Ringos* (1889-90), in the library of the New Jersey Historical Society. Interest in the works of Dr. Larison, which were advertised in the magazine, eventually led him to acquire copies of most of them from the doctor's daughter.

Dr. Larison in following the occupations of teacher, physician, and crusader for spelling reform led a busy life. After he became principal of the academy at Ringoes he established a magazine on orthoepy which he published for twenty-six years, doing nearly all of the writing himself. During the same period he wrote and published more than a dozen books. With these interests it would be only natural that his medical practice would suffer. However, upon his death, the local newspaper mentions only his career as a doctor. Even though his work as a spelling reformer has not been accepted we cannot but admire his tenacious belief in what he thought to be progress.

Dr. Larison's methods of enforcing school discipline would today be considered cruel, but in those days they were doubtless quite common. In this connection there are inconsistencies which the author does not explain. In his youth and until he was twenty-six Dr. Larison was underweight, weighing less than a hundred pounds. In view of his slight build, it is amazing to note the physical power which he had in dealing with unruly boys. Perhaps the incidents in which Dr. Larison came out ahead are the only ones he recorded in his reminiscences. In a spirit of bravado the teacher states that he never used a whip—but perhaps the young colored girl on whom he used a peach tree bough until blood ran from her back, shoulders, and arms would have preferred one.

Country Doctor is based largely on Dr. Larison's published reminiscences and personal interviews which the author had with living descendants. It would have been improved by judicious editing, which would have taken out some of the extraneous matter. The author sometimes goes awry in attempting to use too much of his material.

The last chapter, "The Printed Works of Dr. C. W. Larison," should have included all pamphlets mentioned in the text and would have been of much greater value if the author had listed libraries in which the publications are located. His listing of *The Fisher Family* on page 224 is inaccurate, being taken from an ad-

vertisement. The book is scarce, as only forty copies were printed. A copy was found at the American Antiquarian Society with the following title:

A Skech of the Fisher Family of Old Amwell Township in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Ringos, N.J., Publisht by the Fonic Publishing House, 1890. 8vo. 159 pages.

Pamphlets mentioned in the text which are not listed under "Printed Works" include:

Catalogue of Academy of Science and Art at Ringos for 1877.
Leaflet in support of the Spelling Reform Bill, 1894.
Ho! For the School at Ringos.
The Ancient Village, Amwell. Flemington, 1916.

In addition the following two works are advertised in the June, 1887, issue of the *Jurnal ov American Orthoepy*, which are not listed.

A List ov wurdz hwich ar not olwez pronounst in the sem we,—even bi gud cerful specerz. Price .10

Vivisecshun:—A lectur upon vivisecshun, pronounst hwil the animal upon hwich the vivisecshun woz med, woz befor the odiens. . Price .30

The reviewer has, in his collection, two other leaflets printed by the Fonic Publishing House.

Mi First Luv. Bi David Bailey. Ringos, 1901. 4 pages.
Spirit ov the Academics at Ringoz, N.J. 2 pages.

Dr. Larison, in addition to the works which he published himself, contributed articles to the local newspaper. *Rural Hunterdon* by Hubert G. Schmidt (New Brunswick, 1946), lists several of these, all dealing with some phase of local history.

Country Doctor has many illustrations, including line-cuts of title-pages of some of the books, which add to its interest. Dr. Weiss has made a worth-while contribution to the local history of this state and has given us a book which many people should find of value.—GEORGE C. ROCKEFELLER.

Commercial Canning in New Jersey: History and Early Development. By MARY B. SIM. Trenton: New Jersey Agricultural Society, 1951. Price $7.00.

The greatest appreciation for Mary B. Sim's work comes from someone trying to know and understand the highly-diversified food-processing industry in New Jersey. Unfortunately, the number of such persons is small—and the sad fact persists that *Commercial Canning in New Jersey* is unlikely ever to have the wide reading public the work deserves.

Mrs. Sim's research obviously was serious, detailed, and authentic. Her book is as complete an historical treatise of a single New Jersey subject this reviewer has seen. No facet of the state's vital and complicated canning industry has been overlooked. Moreover, the material is readily used by the student because of its logical arrangement and careful indexing.

A wealth of little-known material (much of it of an anecdotal nature) is scattered throughout the five hundred pages. The book preserves not only the stories of major enterprises (Campbell's Soup, et al.), but also describes the rise (and fall) of scores of small companies.

Obviously no major historical study should be approached in the same manner as a popular historical work, yet the casual reader can't help but wish that Mrs. Sim's material had been edited in a manner more suitable to an easy chair by the fireplace. Such editing might have cut the material to three hundred pages and made the book flow in a vein appealing to a wider body of readers.

That criticism is offered only to point up the fact that *Commercial Canning in New Jersey* now has a decidedly limited audience. That's a pity; the story is good enough to be of interest to everyone. Nevertheless, Mrs. Sim has made a major contribution to the state's historical literature. Her book will appeal to scholars for decades to come. Fascinating material lurks on every page—but it takes careful reading to dig it out.—JOHN B. CUNNINGHAM.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

We wish to thank those who have sent pamphlets and other publications to the director of the New Jersey Historical Society for inclusion in this column and for adding to the files of the Society's library. However we are aware that our listing of such materials is still incomplete.

Special comment is indicated on the mimeographed 1953 itinerary and notes from the Morris County Historical Society. The pilgrimage described was to visit our neighbor, the Staten Island Historical Society whose distinguished Richmondtown Restoration, under Museum Director Loring McMillen, is winning national recognition.

Cape May County Historical Society Programs, 1953-1954. (Cape May Court House, N.J., 1953. 3 pages.)

Fiftieth Anniversary, Phillipsburg Plant [Ingersoll-Rand] (Phillipsburg, N.J., 1953. 24 pages.) Maker of compressors, diesel engines, etc., established 1871, moved 1893 to Easton, 1903 to Phillipsburg. Illustrated.

The Girl in Lover's Lane. BY CHARLES BOSWELL AND LEWIS THOMPSON. (N.Y.: Gold Medal Books, Fawcett Publications, Inc., 1953. 186 pages.) Careful account of the notorious Hall-Mills murder case which stirred the city of New Brunswick and the American press in 1922 and 1926.

Hackettstown, 1853-1953 . . . Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town. (Hackettstown, N.J.: Hackettstown Centennial Committee, 1953. 48 pages.) With illustrations, lists of mayors, etc., chronology, and other short historical accounts. More than half devoted to advertisements.

History of the Mendham Methodist Church. By Charles A. Titus. (Mendham, 1953. 22 pages.) Prepared for the 125th anniversary.

The Indians of New Jersey. By Dorothy Cross. (Trenton: Archeological Society of New Jersey, 1953. 16 pages.) Reprint from the January 1952 Proceedings.

The Ocean County Historical Society, Inaugural Report . . . Covering Highlights March 1950 to 1953. By Virginia Watson Reeve. (Tom's River, N.J., 1953. 2 pages.)

Robert McKean, First President of the Medical Society of New Jersey. By Fred B. Rogers. (1953. 8 pages.) Reprint from the September 1953 *Journal* of the Medical Society of New Jersey.

Route of the Morris County Historical Society Seventh Annual Pilgrimage, Saturday, October 17, 1953. (Morristown, N.J.: Morris County Historical Society, 1953. 7 pages.)

Somerset County—Now and Then. (Somerville: Somerset County Historical Society, 1953. 10 pages.)

Souvenir of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Neshanic, New Jersey. By Rev. George Benjamin Scholten. (Neshanic, N.J., 1952. 31 pages.) Illustrated history of the church founded 1752.

The Story of Greenwich, Cumberland County, New Jersey. By Sarah Sheppard Hancock. (Greenwich, N.J.: Cumberland County Historical Society, 1953. 5 pages.) "Firsts" from the ancient "tea-burning town."

THE PERIODICAL PRESS

Recent magazine articles tell of the recognition of New Jersey's historic background in important celebrations, and draw attention to historic monuments and printed or manuscript source materials.

When some future New Jersey historian seeks to record the happenings of the second half of the twentieth century, he will be largely concerned with industrial development, and with advances in the science of government. These developments are currently reflected in scores of articles on New Jersey and its leaders.

OUT OF THE PAST

"Cape May County Industries," in *New Jersey County Government*, September 1953, p. 31. List covers seventeenth through nineteenth century.

"'Century Run' of Old Autos a Bicentennial Hit in Sussex County," by Leon C. McKeon, in *New Jersey County Government*, October 1953, p. 13.

"Congoleum-Nairn Comes to Trenton," by Karl G. Hastedt, in *Trenton Magazine*, October 1953, pp. 6-7 *ff.* History of Congoleum-Nairn, and of firms which have merged with it, down to the Sloan Blabon Corporation of Trenton, acquired in 1953.

"Early Farm Life Shown in Unique Sussex County Bicentennial Farmstead," by Joseph Val-

ler, in *New Jersey County Government,* October 1953, pp. 3, 10.

"Highway History, Road & Highway Commissioners of N. J.," in *New Jersey County Government,* September 1953, p. 26. Commissioners, 1894 to the present, engineers 1917 to date.

"The Horseneck Tract," by William Y. Pryor, in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey,* January 1951, pp. 1-4. Horseneck is now West Caldwell.

"Lotteries in Princeton's History," by Philip G. Nordell, in *Princeton University Library Chronicle,* Autumn 1953, pp. 16-37.

"Medical Degrees in New Jersey," by Fred B. Rogers, M.D., in *Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey,* November 1953, pp. 496-99. The Medical Society of New Jersey, founded 1766, received from the legislature in 1825 the right to confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

"Mosquito Control in New Jersey—Looking to the Future," by Bailey B. Pepper, in *New Jersey Municipalities,* November 1953, pp. 48-50. Historical article, plus long-range plans.

"Museum of the Camden County Historical Society," in *Hobbies,* June 1953, p. 26.

"Music in New Jersey," by Hope Stoddard, in *International Musician,* October 1953, pp. 8-12 *ff.* From Francis Hopkinson (d. 1791) to name-bands.

"Nassau Hall—'A Phoenix From Her Ashes' . . . ," in *The Old Print Shop Portfolio,* November 1953, pp. 50-52. Illustrated with reproductions of an engraving and two fine lithographs.

"Old Sussex Iron Once the Best in America," by Marilyn Smith, in *New Jersey County Government,* October 1953, pp. 18-19.

"A Preliminary Survey of American Indian Manuscripts in Repositories in the Philadelphia Area," by George S. Snyderman, in *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society,* October 30, 1953, pp. 596-610. Includes references to source materials on the Indians from Brotherton, N.J., and the letters of Susanna Dillwyn of Burlington (1792).

"A Sketch of the Revolutions and Improvements in Science, Art and Literature in America, reprinted from Samuel Miller's 'Brief Retrospect of the Eighteenth Century' (1803) with an introduction and notes by L. H. Butterfield," in *William and Mary Quarterly,* October 1953, pp. 579-627. Includes frequent references to the College of New Jersey, now Princeton.

"The Stirring Battle Cry 'Give 'em Watts, Boys' Helped the Historical Battle of Springfield," in *Suburban Life,* October 1953, p. 29. About Boxwood Hall in Elizabeth, Elias Boudinot, and Parson Caldwell.

"Sussex Bicentennial Ends with Pageant," by R. D. Ayers, in *New Jersey County Government,* October 1953, pp. 10 *ff.*

"Sussex County, at 200 is Proud of Historic Role in Life of N.J.," by Mrs. Levi Howell Morris, in *New Jersey County Government,* October 1953, pp. 7-8 *ff.*

"Sussex County on Parade," by Lester N. Price, in *New Jersey County Government*, October 1953, p. 9. Two-day motor tour of seventy vehicles including floats and highway equipment visited schools and communities throughout the county.

FAMILY RECORDS

"Bridgeton Baptist Cemetery," from records copied by Charles E. Sheppard, 1927-34, in *Vineland Historical Magazine*, July-October 1952, pp. 49-50 (concluded).

"Dorothy Kennedy Deposeth," in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, January 1951, p. 8.

"Gracebury of Ireland and Salem County," contributed by Lewis D. Cook, in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, January 1951, p. 14.

"John Davison the Blacksmith," by Edward J. Raser, in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, January 1951, pp. 9-10. Monmouth County Scotch-Irish pioneer.

"Mural Tablets within the First Presbyterian and St. John's Episcopal Churches, Elizabeth, N.J.," by Lewis D. Cook, in *American Genealogist*, January 1953, pp. 34-36.

"A Note on the Jersey Settlers of Adams County," by W. M. Drake, in *Journal of Mississippi History*, October 1953, pp. 274-75. The Ogden grant was settled 1733 by members of the Ogden, Swayze, King, and other families. An association, Descendants of the Jersey Settlers, meets annually.

"Notes on the Spens (Spence) Family of Scotland and the Spence (Spencer) Family of Woodbridge, N.J.," by John Insley Coddington, in *American Genealogist*, July 1953, pp. 129-38.

"Random Notes Concerning Settlers of Dutch Descent," by William J. Hoffman, in *American Genealogist*, January 1953, pp. 65-76; July 1953, pp. 146-52. Seventeenth-century records from the Amsterdam, Netherlands, archives.

"Tombstone Inscriptions in the Old Presbyterian Burying Ground at Greenwich, with a Historical Sketch," compiled by Frank D. Andrews, in *Vineland Historical Magazine*, July-October 1952, pp. 57-72. Reprint of a 1915 pamphlet, long out of print; to be continued.

NEW JERSEY'S LEADERS

"Assistant State Highway Engineer Retires," by J. Ernest Thier, in *New Jersey County Government*, September 1953, p. 30. Chester A. Burn entered service of the New Jersey State Highway Department in 1917, administering work of convicts in building state roads.

"Frank W. Bohren, Director of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders," by Joe Masick, in *New Jersey County Government*, November 1953, p. 4.

"In Memoriam, Frank Overton, M.D., Joseph F. Londrigan, M.D., Max Danzis, M.D.," *Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey*, November 1953, pp. 487-88.

"Justice Vanderbilt to be 1953 Medalist; Head of New Jersey's Highest Court Will Receive Award at Annual Banquet" (November 19, 1953), in *De Halve Maen*, October 1953, p. 1. Recognition from the Holland Society of New York.

"Labor Day Differs from Other National Holidays," in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, September 1953, p. 24. Tells founding of Labor Day at suggestion of Peter J. McGuire of New Jersey.

"Leslie Richards," a cartoon biography by Joe Masick, in *New Jersey County Government*, September 1953, p. 8. Director of the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders. A member of the board for eight years, he has served four terms as director.

"Recognition of Workers' Rights Dates to Founding of Day to Honor Labor; Vision of 'Pete' McGuire Has Come True," in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, September 1953, p. 14. Includes a drawing of Peter J. McGuire, founder of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and father of Labor Day, 1882.

"Speakers at the F.O.I. Seminar, Dr. Mason W. Gross and Prof. Kenneth Q. Jennings," in *Jersey Publisher*, November 1953, pp. 4-6. Brief biographical sketches of speakers at the seminar conducted by Rutgers University and New Jersey Press Association, on freedom of information.

"Too Busy for Memories; Biography of Dr. Thomas Wilson," by A. Philbrook Smith, in *New Jersey Music and Arts*, May 1953, pp. 5-6 *ff*. Organist of Westminister Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth, for fifty years.

"Walter Darby Retires," in *New Jersey Municipalities*, October 1953, pp. 11-12. Director of local government in the New Jersey Department of the Treasury.

"Welcome Man or Mouse," by Constance Gatchell, in *Suburban Life*, June 1953, pp. 7-8. Life at the home of Mrs. Robert Arny of Montclair, president of the Federated Naturalists of New Jersey.

"Who's Who in New Jersey: Joseph M. Healey, Mayor of Kearny," in *New Jersey Municipalities*, November 1953, p. 7.

"Who's Who in New Jersey Horticulture: Saluting Emmor Roberts," in *Horticultural News*, July 1953, pp. 2682-98. Earliest living president, New Jersey Horticultural Society, resident of Vincentown.

"Who's Who in Jersey Labor: Mayor Leo P. Carlin, City of Newark," by Fred E. Ruslander, in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, July 1953, p. 6.

"Who's Who in Jersey Labor: Peter Yablonsky, President, Painters' District Council No. 10, of Essex County," by Fred E. Ruslander, in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, November 1953, p. 6. Member of Newark Board of Education 1951 to date, for eight years a trustee of the Newark Public Library.

"William H. Hahn, M.D., President, Essex County Medical Society," in *Bulletin of the Essex*

County Medical Society, Summer 1953, p. 321.

"William V. O'Driscoll, Director of the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders," in *New Jersey County Government*, October 1953, p. 4. Cartoon biography by Joe Masick.

BUSINESS, LABOR, INDUSTRY

"About Newark's Business: The United Advertising Corporation," in *The Newarker*, Fall 1953, pp. 2-3. New Jersey's largest outdoor advertising company, third largest in the United States, founded seventy-five years ago in Newark.

"'Ace' Shows Vitality of American Private Enterprise," by Albert S. Smith, in *New Jersey County Government*, August 1953, p. 9. Atlantic City Electric Company serves eight New Jersey counties.

"Advertising Attracts Industry," by Dr. William C. Cope, in *New Jersey Municipalities*, October 1953, p. 19. By the director of the Division of Planning and Development, state Department of Conservation and Economic Development.

"Aviation Comes of Age," by General James H. Doolittle, in *The Newarker*, Fall 1953, p. 4. Speech at dedication of Newark Airport new terminal building.

"Battle to Protect Apprentices Won by AFL Unions as Driscoll Signs Shershin Bill into Law," in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, July 1953, p. 8. New law sets up seven-member apprenticeship council to regulate, set standards, and enforce regulation of apprenticeship, under state Department of Labor and Industry.

"Current Trends in Vegetable Production in New Jersey," by John W. Carncross, in *Horticultural News*, November 1953, pp. 2704-05.

"Diary is Queen in Sussex County," by Denton J. Quick, in *New Jersey County Government*, October 1953, p. 11.

"The Dairy Research Farm," in *New Jersey Agriculture*, September-October 1953, p. 2. About 1200-acre farm at Beemerville given to the state in 1931.

"Everybody's Favorite," in *New Jersey Bell*, November 1953, pp. 30-31. How cranberries are raised in Double Trouble, N.J.

"The Executives' Club of the Oranges and Bloomfield," in *Suburban Life*, June 1953, pp. 34-35. Founded by executives and foremen in 1928 to discuss problems of industrial management and encourage Americanization, sponsored by Y.M.C.A.

"Ideal Canned Goods Distribution Center," in *Via Port of New York*, July 1953, pp. 1-3. No warehouse in the Port of New York is better located than the new one at Port Newark which receives canned goods by sea from California.

"Industries Near Resorts Good for N.J. Economy," by Ned L. Gerber, in *New Jersey County Government*, pp. 32-33 *ff*.

"Know Your Railroad: Industrial Development," by R. E. Rowland, Industrial Agent, Jersey Central Lines, in *The Coupler*, September 1953, pp. 8-9.

"New $8,500,000 Air Terminal Building Opened at Newark Airport," in *Via Port of New York*, September 1953, pp. 5-6.

"The New Opportunity for Fairs & Expositions," by Alexis L. Clark, in *New Jersey County Government*, May 1953, pp. 16-17 *ff*. Thoughtful, important article on county and state fairs in New Jersey discusses cattle exhibitions versus carnival-midway features.

"New York, Hub of the Aerial Universe," by Iles Barry, in *Cue*, September 19, 1953, pp. 12-13 *ff*. Includes Teterboro and Newark airports.

'Newark Airport," by A. T. Felsberg, in *New Jersey Bell*, July-August 1953, pp. 8-11. Detailed description, with illustrations, of new air passenger terminal.

"The Pharmaceutical Industry in New Jersey," by Herbert A. Schmieder, in *Review of New Jersey Business*, October 1953, pp. 5-7 *ff*.

"Planned Shopping Centers," in *Review of New Jersey Business*, October 1953 pp. 8-11.

"Port Authorities, Good and Bad," by Collie Small, in *Nation's Business*, March 1953, pp. 25-26 *ff*. Critical article on the Port of New York Authority.

"Profits from City Wastes?" by H. Russell Stanton, in *New Jersey Municipalities*, November 1952, pp. 35-36. Walker Gordon Laboratory at Plainsboro provides funds for research "on processing of waste organic materials of potential agricultural value," to convert to fertilizer.

"Regulations of Waterfront Practices," in *Via Port of New York*, August 1953 (inside cover and on back cover). Legislation recommended by Governors Dewey and Driscoll to state legislatures.

"Rent Control in N.J. Counties—1953," by Carlton W. Rowand, in *New Jersey County Government*, November 1953, p. 21. Table giving members of rent control agencies staff, and boards of review.

"Rutgers' Labor-Management Institute, Enters 7th Annual Term," in *New Jersey Labor Herald*, September 1953, p. 33.

"Salary and Economic Status of the New Jersey Teacher, 1953-1954," by S. Herbert Starkey, Jr., in *New Jersey Educational Review*, November 1953, pp. 75-103. Earnings and living costs of New Jersey teachers and other wage and salary earners in the state, compared in detailed graphs and tables by the Research Division of the New Jersey Education Association.

"Sleep for Sale," in *The Coupler* (Jersey Central Lines magazine), September 1953, p. 7. Simmons Company, of Elizabeth, mattress and bed spring manufacturers.

"Submarine Duty," in *New Jersey Bell*, September 1953, p. 32. Laying of telephone cable under Lake Hopatcong.

"Suburban Propane Gas Serves Home, Farm & Industry in 16 States," by Eliza G. Wright, in *New Jersey County Government*,

September 1953, p. 21.

"The Television Industry in New Jersey," by Allen B. DuMont, in *Review of New Jersey Business*, October 1953, pp. 3-4 *ff.*

"Top N.J. Farm Production Depends on Good Research, Freeholders Told," by Mrs Elfie Scheideler, in *New Jersey County Government*, September 1953, p. 22.

"We're Still Growing by the Carload," in *New Jersey Bell*, September 1953, pp. 26-30. Current construction jobs of New Jersey Bell Telephone Company reveal new housing construction and growth of dial system.

ANTIQUER'S ATTIC

MARGARET E. WHITE

Following is the first appearance of what is expected to be a regular feature of the PROCEEDINGS, *a department dealing with New Jersey antiques and their makers. Miss White—who is curator of decorative arts on the Newark Museum staff—plans to cover various aspects of the subject in future articles of her own and of guest contributors. As with other* PROCEEDINGS *departments, information and suggestions from the readers will be welcomed.*

SILVER

COMPREHENSIVE notes on the silversmiths of New Jersey, during the period 1623-1825, have been compiled by Julia Sabine and Carl M. Williams.* Thanks to their research, we know the manner of men these were who worked at the silversmith's trade in our state and the type of objects they produced. But much silver made by our local craftsmen remains to be located, and we may expect to find it widely scattered throughout the United States. In the current exhibition, "An Introduction to Silver," at the Newark Museum are some fine examples by New Jersey craftsmen that previously have not been recorded.

Early workers in gold and silver, commonly known as goldsmiths, were held in high esteem. In Europe the goldsmith's craft was the choice of men who, being of noble birth, were above working at a trade. In the American colonies the silversmith had of necessity to be a man of integrity. On his honor alone depended the fineness of the silver he was commissioned to make from coins or outmoded silver vessels that had first to pass through his melting pot.

Our colonial silversmith was well trained. To learn the craft, a youth had to serve an apprenticeship of about seven years with some reputable silversmith. During this term, usually between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one, a pupil lived with his master. Only upon satisfactory completion of his training was the young man admitted as "free-

*Miss Sabine's article, "Silversmiths of New Jersey, 1623-1800," was published in the PROCEEDINGS, Vol. 61, 1943. The book of the same title by Carl M. Williams, covering the period 1700-1825, was published in 1949 by George S. MacManus Company, Philadelphia.

man," with permission to practice his trade. We have reason, therefore, to respect the craftsman and his works, and to be proud of any examples of silver that we own.

Not only were our silversmiths skilled in their craft, but also they were respected members of their communities, often taking an active part in civic affairs. Such a man was David Lyell, an early silversmith of New Jersey. Born in 1670, Lyell came to New York in 1699 from London, where he had been a goldsmith. Until 1717 he engaged in the latter business in New York, dividing his time between that city and Perth Amboy, then capital of the province of East New Jersey. In both places Lyell was prominent in social and political life. He was appointed to the Council of the province of East New Jersey, which office he held until 1723.

No silver by David Lyell has been located, but he is represented in the Newark Museum's exhibition by a portrait miniature done in plumbago and wash on parchment by John Watson. Since Watson came to Perth Amboy from Scotland in 1715 and Lyell died ten years later, the miniature presents the subject in his maturity and, presumably, in a semi-official capacity. The miniature of Lyell is from the Lelia A. and John Hill Morgan Collection, lent by Yale University Art Gallery.

For the Newark Museum's exhibition, the New Jersey Historical Society has lent the teapot made by Elias Boudinot for John and Abigail (Phillips) Stockton of Princeton. Also by Boudinot is a covered sugar dish, evidently made during his Philadelphia period, 1740-53. Originally the bowl belonged to Mrs. Ann Henry Durkin, who came to Philadelphia from Ireland in 1765. From her it passed to her granddaughter Ann, born in 1793. Her initials and the date are engraved. Since then, the bowl has been handed from mother to daughter in unbroken succession. Exhibited with the sugar bowl is a miniature of Mrs. Ann Durkin by an unknown artist.

A sugar urn and cream jug made by Henry Lupp of New Brunswick for Rynier Veghte and his wife, Catharine, of Somerville, New Jersey, are included in the Museum's exhibition. The Veghte family came to this country from Holland in 1660. During the Revolution, Rynier served as lieutenant and later as captain of the Second Battalion, Somerset Militia.

Also by Lupp is a tea set that belonged to General Anthony W. White. This three-piece set with matching teaspoons was used by General White in his New Brunswick home "Buccleuch," which had been built in 1739. His father Anthony White married Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Morris, who was governor of the province of New Jersey. A miniature of General White in uniform is owned by the Rutgers University Library.

Henry Lupp's father, Peter, is represented in the exhibition by teaspoons once used by Abraham Van Doren and his wife Ann Van Dyke. The latter were of Griggstown, New Jersey.

When Matthias Halsted's daugh-

The tea set *(at top)* was made by Henry Lupp (working 1783-1800 at New Brunswick) for General Anthony Walton White. *Below:* Sugar basin made by Elias Boudinot in Philadelphia or Princeton, *circa* 1750-60, originally owned by Mrs. Robert Durkin. Photographs by courtesy of the Newark Museum.

ter, Susan Blanchard Halsted, was married to John Low about 1800 she was presented with a sugar bowl and cream jug made by her uncle, Benjamin. At that period Benjamin Halsted was working in New York, but he began his career as silversmith in Elizabethtown with his brother Matthias as partner. The young married couple also had a ladle by Benjamin with bright-cut decoration on the handle. These pieces have remained in the family and are lent to the exhibition by a descendant of Matthias.

One of the outstanding American pieces in the Museum's exhibition is a coffee pot by Cary Dunn, presented to Sarah Van Brugh Livingston and John Jay at the time of their marriage in 1775. It is lent by the Museum of the City of New York. The wedding took place at "Liberty Hall" in Elizabethtown, the home of Governor William Livingston. Sarah was named for her great-grandmother, the wife of Captain Peter Van Brugh of Albany. These names are of interest in connection with a pair of silver candlesticks by Myer Myers of New York, now being shown in the Newark Museum and later to be included in the Brooklyn Museum's exhibition of Myers' work.

These candlesticks are inscribed "The gift of Peter and Sarah Van Brugh to Cathae Livingston." Was Catharine the granddaughter of Peter and Sarah Van Brugh and the sister of Governor Livingston? She was born in 1733 and later married a Mr. Lawrence. However, there is an interesting hitch in these facts, for Mrs. Sarah Van Brugh died in 1742, three years before Myer Myers began working as a silversmith. Those who own family silver inscribed in some manner might find it worth their while to check names and dates. Rightly documented silver by American craftsmen brings higher prices, and is far more desirable to museums and collectors than pieces of obscure origin.

Two silver tankards owned in New Jersey are especially valuable for the family records associated with them. One of these tankards was made about 1725 by Peter Van Dyck, one the foremost craftsmen of early New York. It belonged to Mrs. Sarah Cornell and is marked with her initials. When she married Henry Wisner in 1769 she took the tankard to her new home and it has remained in the Wisner-Thorne family ever since.

The other tankard was by Andrew Tyler, a contemporary of Van Dyck who worked in Boston. It belonged to the Rev. Samuel Moseley, who graduated from Harvard College in 1729 and married Bethia Otis, daughter of John Otis. On the handle are the combined initials *M* over *S B*. In 1735 Samuel Moseley was made chaplain to Governor Jonathan Belcher of Massachusetts. The tankard has remained in the Moseley family.

Of considerable interest historically is the mug of Sheffield plate given to one of the pallbearers at George Washington's funeral. Each of the six or eight pallbearers received a similar gift from Martha

Washington, as was the custom of the day. The mug is lent by the Cornwallis Headquarters of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Quite unusual is the group of silver wine labels selected from her collection of several hundred by Mrs. Philip H. Hartung, American representative of the British Wine Label Circle. Some of these labels bear names of vintages unfamiliar today and belonging to an era when fifteen or more wines were set forth in labeled decanters from which a guest might choose.

The diversity of form, use, and historic interest, to be found in objects of silver adds greatly to its appeal. This diversity may be noted in the pieces at present on view at the Monmouth County Historical Association. Here one may see a pipkin, or brandy-warmer, with handle of turned wood; an example of the cleft or trifid handle used for spoons and forks during the second half of the seventeenth century; a fine trencher salt made by Koenraet Ten Eyck who was admitted 1716 as "freeman" in New York.

In the churches of our state are preserved many beautiful pieces of silver of which we may all be justly proud. Some of this communion silver is of English or European origin, some pieces are by colonial silversmiths who worked in the Dutch tradition. Among the finest examples are the beakers and chalices owned by the Bergen Reformed Church, Jersey City; Saint Peter's Church, Perth Amboy; Saint Mary's Church, Burlington. Excellent illustrations of them are to be found in *The Old Silver of American Churches* by E. A. Jones, printed for the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in 1913.

The only way we can know about interesting pieces made or owned in New Jersey is with the co-operation of their owners. If you have old family silver, do find out when and by whom it was made, whose initials (if any) are engraved on the pieces. Then, if your pieces seem to warrant it, tell your museum about them. However, be sure that the dates of the silversmith and of the original owner correspond. Sometimes a bit of genealogical work is needed.

The style in which a piece of silver is made may give its approximate date. For instance, a cream jug of inverted-pear shape cannot date much before 1750. The graceful urn shape based on classic models belongs to the late eighteenth century. There is a tendency to attribute a piece of silver to a fixed date or craftsman without due consideration for the style in which it is made. With all antiques there seems to be a tendency to fix an earlier date than is justified, even though this does not necessarily add to their interest or value.

Double woven coverlet (*at top*), indigo and white, made *c.*1825 at English Neighborhood, Bergen County. *Below*: Winding reel, swift, and flax wheel. Note the pine-tree-bordered coverlet on the wall. (Photos courtesy of the Newark Museum.)